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1931 DISTRICT MEETINGS

Time	Place	Chairman	Secretary
April 28	Liberty	Esther Hamilton	Mrs. Norma Corya Brookville
April 30	Seymour	Katherine B. Frazee	Gladys Walker Columbus
May 5	Columbia City	Mayme C. Snipes	Mrs. Ethel Krueger LaGrange
May 6	Mishawaka	Ella Hodges	Inez M. Paul South Bend
May 8	Crown Point	May Burge	Florence Allman Hammond
May 12	Sullivan	Mrs. Alice Burns	Grace E. Davis Terre Haute
May 14	New Harmony	Mrs. Nora Fretageot	Mary Fretageot Evansville
May 19	Mooresville	Helen Stone	Lois Henze Bloomington
May 21	Shoals	Mrs. Marie Brown	Hazel Lett Washington
May 26	Frankfort	Edith Thompson	Lucile Snow Elwood
May 27	Portland	Louise Timmonds	Margaret A. Wade Anderson
June 2	Rochester	Mrs. Grace Mason	Alice D. Stevens Logansport

THE LIBRARIES OF INDIANA

By Jacob P. Dunn, Librarian, Indiana State
Library 1889-1893

The following account of the libraries of Indiana was prepared by Mr. Dunn and published in 1893 as an Indiana World's Fair Monograph. It has been out of print for many years and contains such valuable information that it is worth while to reprint it here for the benefit of future writers and students.

The study of library development in Indiana presents some interesting results as to what has been, what is, and what might have been. Indiana was ushered into existence in humble circumstances. Although when the nineteenth century opened there had been white settlers within her borders for three-quarters of a century, there had been but three or four small settlements, and the inhabitants of these had neither opportunity nor taste for the study of books. They were chiefly Canadian peasants of the more adventurous class, small farmers, hunters, Indian traders and a sprinkling of soldiers. There was not even a school among them until one was established at Vincennes in the last decade of the eighteenth century, by the Abbé Rivet, who is described as "a polite, well-educated and liberal-minded missionary, banished hither by the French revolution." There were certainly very few books of any kind within our boundaries in this first period of our history.

There was no material influx of American settlers until after General Wayne had thoroughly defeated the Indians, and, in August, 1795, secured a treaty with them, ceding the lands then most accessible and desirable for settlement. Then began the change which ultimately made the Indiana of today, but it was a slow process. There was an abundance of good land all through the eastern half of the Mississippi Valley, and it could be had on most favorable

terms in many places that afforded more conveniences and better protection from Indians than our territory could then offer. In 1800 the civilized population within the present boundaries of the State did not exceed 2,500, and in 1816, when the State government was adopted, it had reached a total of 63,897, scattered through thirteen counties. The Americans who came to find homes in our wilderness were more fairly educated than the old French settlers. Volney declares that nine-tenths of them could read and write, and though this estimate is bold, it is probably not far from the truth. They were a very creditable class of people, who had come here for the purpose of building themselves homes by hard work and self-denial. They cleared the forests and made the farms. Isolated, almost without recreation, shut off from the advantages of civilized life, contending against hardships of nature that can hardly be understood now, they labored on patiently and laid the foundations for the future. They were ambitious for the future, too. Schools followed wherever the ax and the plough led, and in the strong and early movement for higher education we find conclusive evidence that they knew they were building a State.

The necessary result of the existing conditions was that Indiana, in the early years of the American settlement, was most thoroughly an agricultural State. In 1840, of 174,678 persons reported as engaged in occupations, 148,806 were in agriculture, and of the total population of 685,860, not less than 600,000 were supported by agriculture. From that time the development of urban life was more rapid, and in 1850 only 163,229 were engaged in agriculture out of a total of 248,696 in all pursuits. The proportion in agriculture has steadily diminished since, until, in 1880, it had reached

331,240, out of a total of 635,080. The scattered condition of an agricultural community is not favorable to the development of libraries, especially in new settlements, and consequently we look for the beginning of activity in the period of urban growth. Yet there was a strong interest in libraries in the earlier years, a vivid appreciation of their usefulness, and energetic provision for their foundation and maintenance. Indeed, one of these provisions led to a great deal of trouble and shame to the State later on. On November 29, 1806, an act was passed by the territorial legislature incorporating Vincennes University, and "for the support of the aforesaid institution, and for the purpose of procuring a library and the necessary philosophical and experimental apparatus," the trustees were authorized to establish a lottery, and to raise thereby not to exceed \$20,000. There seems to have been some difficulty in raising this sum, or at least in getting it into the possession of the university, for the lottery was continued until it was claimed to be a "vested right," and the State was not finally rid of it until, in 1883, the national Supreme Court decided that there could be no vested right in a lottery, and so relieved us of our incubus. Vincennes University now has a library of 4,500 volumes, and is probably as well supplied with educational apparatus as other colleges in the State.

But this was not a public library. The first of that class was established at Vincennes in 1807. Vincennes was then the capital of the Territory, and the residence of the wealthiest and most influential men. The old records of the institution, which are preserved in Vincennes University, show that most of these were subscribers to the library, together with several of the more prominent men from other parts of the Territory. The librarian was Peter Jones, then Auditor of the Territory, a trustee of the University, and further known to fame as the keeper of a very excellent inn. The enterprise was successful, though to the present generation it might seem to have moved slowly. In March, 1808,

little more than a year after starting, it advertised the possession of 210 works, many of which were in several volumes. They were well selected, and formed, for that time, quite a treasury of literature for a frontier town. This library was successfully maintained through the hard years of our territorial existence, and was supplemented by other aids to mental culture, such as the "Vincennes Society for the Encouragement of Agriculture and the Useful Arts," established in 1810, and Mr. Elihu Stout's reading room established in 1814, to supply subscribers with "periodicals, pamphlets, price currents and newspapers." Vincennes was the center of intellectual activity during the territorial period, and though the Knox County delegates were with the minority, from a political standpoint, in the Constitutional Convention of 1816, they exercised large influence on the formation of the Constitution. The other members also appreciated the value of public libraries, and no difficulty was found in placing in the Constitution a provision that, when a new county should be created, the General Assembly "shall cause at least ten per cent to be reserved out of the proceeds of the sale of town lots in the seat of justice of such county for the use of a public library for such county; and, at the same session, they shall incorporate a library company under such rules and regulations as will best secure its permanence and extend its benefits." This was carried into effect by the general law for the establishment of county libraries in 1818, and there had been adopted, in 1816, a very good law for the incorporation of public libraries in general. The two, with various amendments added in later years, covered the public library system of the State until after the adoption of the Constitution of 1851. The county libraries thus established furnished the chief part of the books to which the Indiana public had access during the remainder of the first half of the present century.

Second in importance only to the county library law in Indiana's acquisition of books

during this period was the Sunday-School movement, and there are few things that give a better idea of the people and their condition than an investigation of this work. Although Robert Raikes began his labors in 1781, it was not till many years later that the Sunday-School library became an important element in it. In fact, there was no special publication of the volumes used for "reward books" until, in 1810, the Religious Tract Society of London began publishing books designed for that purpose. The demand for them rapidly increased, other houses began publishing them, and a few years later the establishment of a circulating library in the school became a special feature of the work. It was not until this stage had been reached that Sunday School extension was brought generally and prominently before the American people. The period of general activity began in 1824 with the organization of the American Sunday-School Union, which, like several sectarian unions organized soon after, had for its two principal objects the publication of Sunday-School literature, and the founding of Sunday-Schools on the frontier and in destitute parts of the country. The movement spread rapidly. On August 3, 1827, the Indiana Sabbath-School Union, which had been organized some months earlier, held its first annual meeting at Indianapolis. At that time there were estimated to be 2,000 children in the State who attended Sunday-Schools, while the greater part of the remaining 48,000 were "growing up in great ignorance and thus preparing for great wickedness." The purpose of Sunday-Schools, aside from their religious influence, was declared by this Union to be "paving the way for common schools, and of serving as a substitute till they are generally formed." That this work was systematically undertaken may be seen from the following direction of the Union:

CLASSIFICATION: Let the school be divided into four classes; the first, those who study the scriptures; the second, those who memorize hymns and catechisms; the third, those who spell in two or more

syllables; and, the fourth, those who are learning the alphabet and monosyllables; and let each class be divided into as many sections as necessary, so that each section shall consist of from six to twelve scholars, the classification to be made at the commencement of every quarter, and the scholars classed according to what they have learned the preceding quarter.

In an "Address to the Public," issued by this convention, it is stated that the State Union expected to aid the Sunday-School work in several specified ways, "and finally, by establishing depositories at several eligible points, for supplying the surrounding region with books at reduced prices; of which we are happy to state that the sites of three have already been determined upon, viz.: Indianapolis, Madison and New Albany, where we presume ample supplies already have been, or will be, received from the general depository of the American Sunday-School Union."

The reports of the officers, however, show that the work of distribution had been begun. They had ordered \$100 worth of books from the parent society in January, and had succeeded by strenuous exertions in paying \$45 on account. I know of nothing that gives such an impression of the esteem in which books were then held, as the following rules of the Indianapolis school, which were published by the Union as samples worthy of general adoption:

Fourth. The books of the library shall be numbered and so classed as that books of the value of 12 cents and under shall form the first class; over 12 and not exceeding 25, the second; over 25 and not exceeding 50, the third; over 50 and not exceeding 75, the fourth; over 75 and not exceeding \$1, fifth; over \$1 and not exceeding \$1.50, the sixth; and over \$1.50 and not exceeding \$2, the seventh; being classed according to the retail price affixed by the purchasing committee, and the number and class of each book shall be written therein.

Fifth. Every scholar who has attended school one month and whom the librarian

has reason to believe will continue and may safely be trusted with books, shall be entitled for punctual attendance, good behavior, and bearing a good examination on the lesson assigned by the Committee of Religious Instruction, to draw a book from the library of the value of four times as many cents as the average lesson, assigned by the religious instructor to the class, consists of verses or their equivalent, which book may be kept one week and no longer.

Sixth. Every dirt or grease spot, turned down or torn leaf, or week overkept, in books of the first class shall be fined one cent; in books of the second class, two cents; third class, three; fourth class, four; fifth class, five; sixth class, six; and seventh class, seven cents; and for other injuries to be fined by the Librarian in like proportion, and the value of any book lost or very much injured to be paid for either in money or memorizing, and no scholar or teacher to have two books at one time, or, after injuring one book, to draw another until the fine has been paid, or a sufficient credit is standing in his favor to discharge it; and whenever a fine has been assessed for injury done a book, it shall be entered on the book by the Librarian.

These rules had been found serviceable in the Indianapolis school, but they would not answer now. The conditions are wholly changed. At that time the evil to be contended against was the lack of reading matter for the young. Now the serious problem is how to prevent the young from using the cheap, sensational literature that is thrust on their notice. Good books can not now be made too cheap or too easy of access. Situated as we now are we can scarcely comprehend the enormous influence for good of these early Sunday-Schools, and especially of the literature which they furnished to the children of the State. It was a veritable rain of manna in the desert, and to it may safely be ascribed much of the intelligence and much of the virtue of the people of later generations. To what extent these books repressed the swelling tide of ignorance, to

what extent they gave occupation to idle minds, to what extent they inculcated lessons of morality and industry, must remain matters of conjecture; but no careful investigator can escape the conviction that they accomplished all that the projectors of the work could have anticipated, and repaid a thousand fold all the labor and money expended in securing and circulating them.

The growth of libraries in this first period of the State's history, ending in 1850, does not seem great when viewed as a whole, and yet it was creditable to the people. The State was still in the condition of material development. Forests were still being cut down and burned, houses built, fields cleared, and men were engaged in the stern daily struggle for the necessities of life. As a rule the people were poor. They raised good crops, but the transportation facilities were so defective that the State almost bankrupted itself in the effort to improve them. Money was scarce and hard to get. Books were more expensive, relatively, than now. Still, the people were ambitious that their children might have opportunities for improvement. The religious and moral elements were strong, and they had early realized the necessity of giving the young mind proper food. As the result of the work from all sources, we had in 1850, according to the national census, a total of 151 libraries other than private, containing 68,403 volumes. These are classified as follows: Public libraries — mostly county libraries—fifty-eight, with 46,238 volumes; school libraries, three, with 1,800 volumes; Sunday-School libraries, eighty-five, with 11,265 volumes; college libraries, four, with 8,700 volumes; church libraries, one, with 400 volumes. According to this the Sunday-School libraries were more than half the total number, but the public libraries contained over two-thirds of the total volumes. The figures for Sunday-School libraries are very far from correct. Professor Jewett, who had charge of the preparation of the library report for the Census Bureau, states that he had been unable to obtain full sta-

tistics as to these libraries, and, when it is considered that the Methodist Church alone had 612 Sunday-Schools in Indiana in 1850, it is evident that the statement is much below the truth. In my opinion the figures could be quadrupled without danger of passing the limit of fact.

There are two existing libraries, which began their existence as one in this earlier period, that should be considered here. They are the State Library and the State Law Library—the latter sometimes known as the Supreme Court Library. The State Library was established by the act of February 11, 1825, which was procured chiefly by the influence of Benjamin Parke, one of the prominent public men of early days, and one of the most useful men it has been the fortune of the State to possess. The Secretary of State was *ex-officio* librarian at the beginning, but in 1841 the office of State Librarian was created. The library then contained about 2,000 volumes. It grew steadily in importance, and in 1867 was divided as above mentioned, the law books being formed into a separate library under the direct control of the Supreme Court. This change was not advantageous to the State Library, which thereafter had to make its purchases and pay for its binding out of an annual appropriation of \$400, in consequence of which but little binding was done and few purchases made. This absurd condition continued until 1889, when, in compliance with a petition of the Indiana Historical Society and the several agricultural organizations of the State, the Legislature made a special appropriation of \$5,000 for the purchase and binding of books, and provided for an annual appropriation of \$2,000 thereafter. Under these provisions the library improved rapidly, but the Legislature of 1893 struck a hard blow at its usefulness by reducing the purchase fund to \$1,000. It now contains 22,969 volumes, and a large number of pamphlets. The State Law Library contains 15,000 volumes. It has a purchase fund of \$2,000 per annum, and receives about 750 copies of each of the Supreme Court reports for trad-

ing purposes, which is equivalent to about \$1,000 more. Both libraries have quarters in the State Capitol, and both are sadly hampered by wooden shelving whose architectural beauty is surpassed only by its inadequacy and phenomenal inconvenience.

The second half of the nineteenth century opened with bright prospects for all the educational interests of Indiana. The pioneer work had been done. The seed had been planted and the harvest of good fruit was ready for the sickle. The sentiment for public education had become overwhelming. In 1851 a new Constitution was adopted, and in it provision was made for a State system of public schools. In 1852 the common school law—the basis of our present system of public education—was adopted, and included in it was a provision for a general system of public libraries. The material conditions of the State were transforming rapidly. The people had learned that private enterprise could solve the transportation problem better than the government. Under the old Constitution all corporations were created by special charter, and, as a certain portion of the legislators were always of accumulative disposition, it had become so expensive to secure a railroad charter as to make such an attempt a very discouraging undertaking. The new Constitution required that all incorporations should be made under general laws, and under this provision private enterprise was given full scope to occupy any field it found desirable. Capitalists were ready to invest. Railroad building advanced rapidly. The farmers' products were brought within reach of markets. Money became more plentiful. Commerce and transportation became great industries. Towns and cities multiplied and grew. Life became easier. And by all these influences the State was prepared for a rapid evolution in its literary culture.

In the decade beginning with the adoption of the second constitution two very extensive and noteworthy systems of libraries were established in Indiana. Both of them are traceable, one directly and one indi-

rectly, to the same source—the literary culture and philanthropic spirit of New Harmony. This little town, on the banks of the Wabash, in Posey County, founded by the Rappite community and transferred by them to Robert Owen, who established his industrial community there, has had a great influence on Indiana in several respects, but chiefly on her educational system. Persons who are accustomed to speak of Posey County as the abode of ignorance merely display their own ignorance in so doing. It is not only one of the first counties of the State in agriculture, but is inhabited by a remarkably intelligent, orderly and progressive class of people, and this is largely due to the influence of New Harmony. It has been at various times the residence of more men distinguished for their knowledge of science than have lived in any other county in Indiana. Even to this day the town of New Harmony is better known in Europe than any other city or town of the State, and to this day no Indiana town approaching it in size can equal it in the intelligence of its people. Associated with Mr. Owen in his enterprise was William Maclure, first president of the Philadelphia Academy of Science, a man of large means and an extensive knowledge of science. He had traveled widely, was intimate with many scientific men, and delighted in the office of patron and friend to science in all its branches. He drew to New Harmony such men as Gerard Troost, the geologist; Thomas Say, the conchologist; Joseph Neef, the disciple of Pestalozzi, who first introduced that great teacher's system to this country; Lesueur, the French naturalist and artist; Prince Maximilian, traveler and naturalist; Rafinesque, the botanist; Schoolcraft, the student of Indian life, and others of less note. Science was the vital air of New Harmony, and in this atmosphere developed the younger Owens, Prof. Cox, Prof. Worthen of Illinois, and other noted men of late years. It was also for several years the headquarters of the United States Geological Survey of the Mississippi Valley, and thereby brought to

itself for a time men of world-wide reputation connected with that work.

From the circumstances of its settlement New Harmony was the home of many persons with hobbies—some of them would be called “cranks” by the thoughtless—but all were united in the faith of free speech, the natural equality of mankind, and the benefit of education. Maclure's hobby was the amelioration of the condition of the working classes, and especially through the agency of workingmen's institutes. He gave much attention to economics, published three volumes on the subject, under the title of “Maclure's Opinions,” and advanced on all available occasions his views on the philosophy of living. Under his influence, in 1838, was established the “New Harmony Workingmen's Institute.” Maclure donated to it an order on a London bookseller for £200. Later, the library thus started was joined with that of another society which Maclure had aided, and during the Civil War the township library was added to them. From this combination results the present New Harmony library of 7,650 volumes, having an annual circulation of 24,000—a most extraordinary record for a town of about 1,000 inhabitants. Connected with this library is a very fair art gallery, and a natural history collection of some merit.

But Maclure's plans were not to be bounded by the limits of New Harmony, and in his various wills—he appears to have made one once a year or oftener—provisions were made for vast philanthropic projects of various kinds. His estate was extensive and somewhat peculiar. At least it seems odd to read in the will of an Indiana man the disposition not only of some thirty buildings at New Harmony and about 10,000 acres of land in the vicinity, but also over a million reals in Spanish securities, his house No. 7 Calle del Lobo, in Alicante, his convent of St. Gines and accompanying estate of 10,000 acres in Valencia, his convent and estate of Grosmana, near Alicante, his estate of Carman de Coix in the Valley of Murada, 41,000 francs in

French securities, notes and mortgages on properties scattered from Big Lick plantation, in Virginia, to various parts of England, France and Spain, the total remaining editions of Michaux's Sylva, Condillac's logic, and Garner's dictionary, more than a hundred boxes of minerals, prints, etc., and near 2,000 copper plates of engravings and illustrations of various kinds. In his last will, or more properly a codicil of it, which was executed in the City of Mexico in 1840, he directed, among other things, that his executors should donate "the sum of five hundred dollars out of my other property in the United States of America to any club or society of laborers who may establish, in any part of the United States, a reading and lecture room with a library of at least one hundred volumes." The "laborers" were defined in the will as "the working classes who labor with their hands and earn their living by the sweat of their brows." MacLure's last codicil to this document changed the executors, on account of "the melancholy state of morality which prevents dead men's wills from being fulfilled or executed when they give any property for the use and benefit of the poor and working classes, but on the contrary the moneyed aristocracy find means to purloin the said property for the use, support and maintenance of their privileged classes." He made his brother, Alexander MacLure, and his sister, Anna MacLure, his executors.

Although the executors did not belong to "the moneyed aristocracy," they apparently had aspirations to do so, and having received the opinion of their lawyers that the trust was void as being for bodies not in existence, they proceeded to enjoy the estate of which they were the natural heirs. A young attorney of Posey County, Alvin P. Hovey, late Governor of Indiana, took a different view of the law, and instituted proceedings to displace them. The case was carried to the Supreme Court. Hovey won, and himself became the administrator of the estate. It was finally converted into available funds, and in 1855 the distribu-

tion began. The records show donations of \$500 each to "Workingmen's Institutes," "Mechanics' Associations," "Literary Societies," etc., as follows, the locations being given by counties with the name of the town following in parentheses when shown by the records: Posey county (Mt. Vernon), Floyd (New Albany), Owen (Gosport), Parke (Annapolis), Posey (Poseyville), Huntington (Huntington), Spencer (Liberty), Grant (Marion), Posey (Farmersville), DeKalb (Vienna), Switzerland (Vevay), Owen (Spencer), Ohio, Henry (Knightstown), Hancock (Greenfield), Wayne (Centerville), Bartholomew (Columbus), Decatur (Greensburg), Lawrence (Bedford), Fayette (Connersville), Posey (Stewartsville), Dearborn (Aurora), Gibson (Barren), Martin (Mt. Pleasant), Adams (Decatur), St. Joseph (South Bend), Fulton (Rochester), Knox (Vincennes), Boone (Thorntown), Elkhart (Goshen), White (Monticello), Clay (Brazil), Miami (Peru), Greene (Linton), Gibson (Princeton), Hamilton (Westfield), Hendricks (Danville), Crawford (Leavenworth), Fountain (Covington), Tippecanoe (Lafayette), Dekalb (Auburn), Clinton (Frankfort), Blackford (Hartford City), Lagrange (Lima), Parke (Rockville), Whitley (Columbia City), Starke (Knox), Noble (Albion), Putnam (Greencastle), Kosciusko (Warsaw), Greene (Bloomfield), Jackson, Porter (Valparaiso), Warrick (Boonville), Lagrange (Lagrange), Jay (Portland), Martin (Dover Hill), Fountain (Attica), Pike (Petersburg), Benton (Oxford), Posey (Wadesville), Jefferson (South Hanover), Sullivan (Sullivan), Hamilton (Noblesville), Gibson (Snake Run), Wabash (Wabash), St. Joseph (Mishawaka), Monroe (Bloomington), Tippecanoe (Farmers), Shelby (Shelbyville), Perry (Cannelton), Rush (Rushville), Madison (Anderson), Dearborn (Lawrenceburgh), Union (Liberty), Howard (Kokomo), Floyd (New Albany), Orange (Paoli), Orange (Lost River), Washington (Salem), Jennings (Vernon), Johnson (Franklin), Delaware (Muncie), Wayne (Richmond), Posey

(Cynthiana), Floyd (New Albany), Union (Cottage Grove), Morgan (Mooresville), Harrison (Corydon), Clark (Jeffersonville), Tipton (Tipton), Spencer (Rockport), Ripley (Versailles), Scott (Lexington), Sullivan (New Lebanon), Randolph (Winchester), Allen (Fort Wayne), Franklin (Springfield), Posey (New Harmony), Vanderburgh (Evansville), Clark (Charlestown), Morgan (Martinsville), Henry (New Castle), Wayne (Cambridge City), Vermillion (Eugene), Jackson (Seymour), Putnam (Bainbridge), Jefferson (North Madison), Greene (Worthington), Vigo (Terre Haute), Laporte (Laporte), Sullivan (Carlisle), Crawford (Alton), Pulaski (Winamac), Carroll (Delphi), Steuben (Angola), Montgomery (Crawfordsville), Clay (Bowling Green), Gibson (Patoka), Montgomery, Gibson (Marsh Creek), Franklin (Brookville), Cass (Logansport), Boone (Lebanon), Lake (Crown Point), Warren (Williamsport), Vermillion (Newport), Wells (Bluffton), Putnam (Portland Mills), Elkhart (Elkhart), Parke (Bloomington), Posey (Smith Township), Gilson (Black River), Daviess (Washington), Brown (Nashville), Jasper (Rensselaer), Marshall (Plymouth), Howard (Poplar Grove), Johnson (Edinburgh), Laporte (Michigan City), Pike, Jackson (Uniontown), Vermillion (Clinton), Johnson (Greenwood).

This distribution covered a period of four years, and, as appears from the list above, it extended very generally over the State. In all, 144 of these associations received donations, in 89 of the 92 counties. As a rule they were not long-lived. They were almost all formed for the purpose of getting the donation, and there was little else to hold them together. In each case, the recipients were required to show that they were "laborers," and that they had complied with the provision for collecting a library of 100 volumes, but these preliminary libraries were usually composed of old books of all sorts, hastily gathered together and of little practical value. There was nothing in their formation to insure, and

but little to encourage, perpetuity. Soon after these organizations were formed, the Civil War came on, and many of the members went to the front. In most cases the books were finally divided and became the individual property of the members. In the special reports of the County Superintendents of Schools on the libraries of the several counties, which have recently been made, I find mention of but two of the Maclure libraries, aside from the one at New Harmony, referred to above. One of them formed the basis of the present town library of 3,673 volumes at Princeton, in Gibson County. At Williamsport, in Warren County, 145 volumes of a Maclure library are deposited in the High School building, and the public is privileged to use them. And not only have these libraries almost vanished, but even the memory of them is well nigh gone. The name of William Maclure is hardly known in Indiana, outside of Posey County, and where known it is usually connected with a vague recollection of some sort of library of which very little knowledge is had. So far as I have been able to learn, in several years of inquiry, no account of these libraries, previous to this, has ever been published.

The second and more important library movement of this period was the establishment of the township libraries. The law under which they originated was a part of the school law of 1852, and tradition ascribes the provision for them to Robert Dale Owen, of New Harmony, who was a member of the committee that reported the bill. Doubtless he had the hearty co-operation of Prof. Caleb Mills, who, more than any other person, was instrumental in arousing the public sentiment that procured the passage of the school law. The law provided for a tax of a quarter of a mill on the dollar; or twenty-five cents on the one thousand dollars, and a poll tax of twenty-five cents, the proceeds of which were to be devoted exclusively to the purchase of township libraries. These levies were to be made for two years only. The law went into effect at once. By November

1, 1854, \$171,319.07 had been collected from the tax, and \$147,222 expended for books.

The first imperfection of the law was then manifested. It required the purchase of complete libraries; but instead of providing one for each township it directed that ten libraries should be furnished to each county having more than 15,000 inhabitants, eight libraries to counties having from 10,000 to 15,000 inhabitants, and six libraries to counties having less than 10,000 inhabitants; and the libraries so received were to be divided equitably among the townships by the county commissioners. The result was that there were 690 libraries to be divided among 938 townships, and the basis of distribution to counties was so unequal that there were over 150 townships that received less than full libraries, each of which had more inhabitants than one entire county that received six libraries. What was worse, as there were very few counties in which the number of libraries received corresponded exactly with the number of townships, the completeness which had been aimed at in the purchase was at once destroyed by the division of almost all the libraries, and in some instances that division was made with such stern impartiality that sets of books were divided, part of the volumes being sent to one township and part to another.

Notwithstanding this defect, which could easily have been avoided either by providing one library for each township or by applying the tax paid in each township exclusively to the purchase of a library for that township, the libraries were very popular and very successful for several years. By the revised school law of 1855 an improvement was made in the distribution and the tax continued for another year. In his report of 1856 Caleb Mills, who had then become Superintendent of Public Instruction, declared that an examination of the statistical showing of the libraries would "convince the most skeptical that a one-quarter of a mill property and a twenty-five cents poll tax never accomplished so much for education in any other

way." The total amount raised by this three years' taxation was \$273,000, or about \$290 to each township. The average number of volumes received was about 300, the exact number varying with the population. Small as this may seem the libraries were an immense advantage from what preceded them, and the people eagerly devoured the feast spread before them. The official reports of the use of the libraries made at the time, many of which are set forth in the Superintendent's report of 1857, fully justify Mr. Mills' statement that the system had already "accomplished results equal to the most sanguine expectations of its friends, and fully redeemed their pledges in its behalf." He adds: "The reports from many townships will show that the number of books taken out in twelve consecutive months is equal to from one to twenty times the entire number in the library, a case perhaps without a parallel in the history of popular reading." If that were the case then, when, as Mr. Mills had shown in his arguments for a common school system, there were counties in Indiana in which one-half the adult population could not read at all, what might be expected from the Indiana of to-day?

But it is not necessary to go to statistics to prove the usefulness of those books. Whenever you find a well-informed man who lived in Indiana from 1855 to 1860, you always find a man who patronized the township libraries, and he will tell you that he profited much by them. In the course of several years' agitation of the revival of these libraries I have had occasion to converse with many persons concerning them, and have repeatedly been surprised at the acknowledgements of indebtedness to them. Their effect was all that could have been asked while they were new, and yet in 1860 there were clearly apparent two defects that must of themselves eventually have ruined the system. One of these was the custody of the books by Township Trustees, most of whom are chosen without any reference to their knowledge of, or interest in

books. Even in 1860 there were about one-fourth of the Trustees who took so little interest in the libraries that they did not make the report of their condition required by law, and since that time the number of these has steadily grown, and those who did report apparently copied the figures of the preceding year or guessed at new ones. The statistical reports of the libraries after 1870 are scarcely worth the paper on which they are printed. The second defect was that there were no means provided for the increase and repair of books. In his report of 1860 the Superintendent of Public Instruction said: "The most common complaint made to me in relation to them is for want of means to replenish the libraries with new and additional works and to keep them in repair. In some of the townships I am informed that individuals have read nearly or quite every book in the library and call loudly for more. . . . A permanent annual revenue, small when compared with the original revenue for that purpose, is much needed for the support of this feature of our educational system. A bill for that purpose passed the Senate at its last session by a vote of twenty-nine to nine, but failed to become a law."

But to these defects of the law another disastrous influence was added. Before the novelty of the libraries had fairly worn off the Civil War began, and the whole attention of the people was turned to it; their energies were strained to the utmost to meet its demands; and from the new conditions created by it there was rapidly developed a nation living in a feverish, abnormal state of activity. There was little thought of the future, and less of the past. Everything was absorbed in the present. This habit of life does not tend to promote research and reflection, and after five years of it the people were much less able than before to appreciate the benefits of quiet mental development. We were left at the close of the war a nation of business men as we had never been before. The activity that had become a necessity in living during those five years was transferred to

the ordinary pursuits of life, and we passed into an era of enterprise, of speculation, of vast projects, such as had never been seen before, and such as may not soon be seen again.

Nevertheless the libraries were not entirely forgotten at the close of the war. Some one remembered their benefits and realized that they could not continue beneficial without continuing support, and in 1865 a law was passed providing for a tax of one tenth of a mill on the dollar, or one cent on one hundred dollars, for their support. Small as this tax was, it would have gone far towards satisfying the public needs and by this time would have built up very respectable libraries in all the townships, but it was not destined to continue. The interest in the libraries was no longer general, and worst of all they were not appreciated in the place that should have been their stronghold. Mr. Hoss, then Superintendent of Public Instruction, recommended, in 1866, that the fund raised for the township libraries, amounting to about \$50,000, be diverted to the erection of the Normal School at Terre Haute, and he obtained his desire. A law to that effect was passed by the next Legislature, approved on March 8, 1867, and on the next day a law was approved repealing the tax entirely.

Left thus without any support whatever, the libraries were of necessity doomed to continual deterioration. No new books could be added except by donation. When a book wore out it could not be replaced. If the binding came off it could not be rebound. Then, aside from material deterioration, a public library is always on the retrograde in usefulness if it be not growing. People who wish to read finish such books as they care for, and then, having no further use for the library, take no further interest in it. It gradually drops out of sight. What difference does it make if the Township Trustee, who is burdened with the care of the library, boxes it up and stores it in his cellar? What, even if he loan the books to his friends and make no pretense of see-

ing that they are returned? Who cares? No one uses the library. In fact a majority of the people do not know that there is any. That is the state of the public mind at present, and has been for a number of years past, and under it the libraries have steadily advanced in disintegration and ruin. They have died, or rather are dying, of starvation and neglect. But this furnishes no argument against the usefulness of township libraries. It merely demonstrates that our system is defective; and the reasonable action to be taken is not the abandonment of the libraries, but the amendment of the system.

In this connection it may be advantageous to offer an answer to one objection that is frequently made to the books originally selected for these libraries, and that is that the persons who made the selection "shot over the heads of the readers." This is a very serious defect in any library, for every one who has opportunity for observation knows that it is impossible to form the reading habit if you offer only the highest grade of books at first. It is like any other kind of education. You must begin with easier work and gradually rise to the higher branches. In the expressive language of Mr. Sam Jones, "You must put your fodder on the ground, where anything can reach it, from a giraffe to a billy-goat."

But this idea, as to the old township libraries, is derived from examination of the existing remnants of these libraries, and not from the purchase lists, which may be found in the reports of the Superintendents of Public Instruction for 1856 and 1857. These lists show that the libraries contained the best and most popular children's books of that time, though it must be remembered that thirty-five years ago the production of juvenile literature was very small as compared with the present. Among the purchases were Abbott's "Rolla," "Jonas," and "Lucy" books which still hold a high place as useful and popular juveniles; "Abbott's Biographies"; "Cousin Alice's Stories"; "Robinson Crusoe"; "Swiss Family Robinson"; Mayne

Reid's "Boy Hunters," "Forest Exiles," "Young Voyagers" and "Desert Home"; Chamber's "Library for Young People"; Harper's "Story Books": "Aunt Kitty's Tales"; "Uncle Philip's Books"; "The Young Crusoe"; "The Young Sailor"; "Braggadocio"; "Fairy Tales and Legends"; "The Little Drummer"; "Anecdotes for Boys"; "Anecdotes for Girls"; "Stories About Birds"; "Stories About Animals"; "Stories About Insects"; "Campfires of the Revolution"; "Wild Scenes and Wild Hunters"; Dickens' "Child's History of England"; Bonner's "Child History of the United States," and others. These will not ordinarily be found among the books now remaining in these libraries, for the reason that they were worn out by constant use, or retained by some reader. Every librarian knows that all popular books quickly disappear from the shelves unless replaced, and no books were replaced in the township libraries. That was one of the most injurious defects of the system. The books that now remain are those which were but little used, but many of them are entitled to a place in any well-selected library, and all of them are worth keeping, so far as subject-matter is concerned.

The statistics of libraries for the period since 1850 are not of a character that would make them of much value to the investigator, unless he had some means for correcting and explaining them. The school reports show only the township libraries, and, as has been mentioned, give no reliable information as to them. The census of 1860 accords to Indiana 341 public libraries, with 198,490 volumes; 523 school libraries, with 174,171 volumes; 247 Sunday-School libraries, with 65,456 volumes; 11 college libraries, with 28,745 volumes, and one church library, with 200 volumes, making a total of 1,123 libraries and 467,062 volumes. The only way in which these figures could have been obtained, was counting part of the township libraries as public libraries, and part as school libraries. The report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for 1860 shows 272,744 volumes in the township

libraries, and about one-fourth of the townships not reporting. The number of Sunday-School libraries given is below the reality, and the number of volumes in them is too large in proportion. It is incredible that any 247 Sunday-School libraries in Indiana, in 1860, contained 65,456 volumes, and it can scarcely admit of question that there were at least twice that number of these libraries. The census of 1870 is somewhat more reasonable. It gives Indiana 145 public libraries, with 67,207 volumes; 1,006 school libraries, with 323,391 volumes; 1,075 Sunday-School libraries, with 204,692 volumes; 87 church libraries, with 24,356 volumes, and 20 circulating libraries, with 8,248 volumes, making totals of 2,333 libraries, with 627,894 volumes. In this the township and college libraries are apparently united as school libraries, but unless some of the township libraries were counted as public libraries I can not imagine how the figures for that class were obtained. The county, city, town and state libraries unquestionably did not number 145 at that time. In 1880 the census bureau made no report on libraries and if any is contemplated for the census of 1890 no preliminary statement of its facts has yet been made. On the whole there is little reason for refusing assent to the declaration made in the report of 1870 that "the statistics of libraries have never been very creditable to the census of the United States."

Partly for the purpose of this sketch, and partly for the use of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, an attempt was made to obtain statistics of the libraries of Indiana by special reports of the County Superintendents, during the winter of 1892-3. A tabulated statement of the information received is appended hereto. It shows 574 township libraries, with 138,867 volumes; 148 school libraries, with 29,016 volumes; 99 county, city and town libraries, with 187,783 volumes; and 110 additional libraries, other than private, with 229,835 volumes. A number of the reports are quite imperfect, for various

reasons, and the figures would give erroneous impressions without some explanation. As to the township libraries, it would be safe to add 25 per cent to both the number of libraries and the number of volumes reported, and yet it must not be understood that these old libraries are performing the office of public libraries. Very few of them are in active use, and none of them are extensively used. They are most usually kept at the house of the Trustee, and occasionally in his barn or granary. In many cases they are boxed up, probably for convenience in transferring them from the Trustee to his successor in office. In my opinion the number of volumes given is a fair approximation to the number that could be made use of if the libraries were rehabilitated and put in working order. The remainder of the township libraries have disappeared. Some have been lost by fire, and a few have been destroyed by floods. Some have "softly and silently vanished away," and no one knows what became of them. In some counties, as Hamilton, they have been divided among the schools of the several townships. The number of school libraries is largely in excess of the number reported, but these usually contain very few books, and in most cases no reports were made except of high-school libraries. Clinton County is an exception to this rule. The report of county, city and town libraries is substantially correct, though there are probably a few libraries included in it that might more properly be classed as school libraries. In the last division the 88 libraries of Henry County are Young People's Reading Circle libraries. These exist in some other counties, but were either not reported or classed as school libraries. Nearly all the libraries of Indiana are connected in some way with the school system, and the classification is, therefore, difficult. In some cases the school authorities purchased the Reading Circle libraries, and in others they were bought with money raised by entertainments which were given by the teachers and pupils. The remainder of the libraries in the last division are

mostly college libraries, but the figures for Marion County include also the State library and State law library. No attempt was made to secure statistics of Sunday-School and church libraries, but these have probably not increased beyond the figures given for 1870. To them, however, may be added the libraries of the Young Men's Christian Association, which are nine in number, with 5,715 volumes. On a rough estimate the total number of libraries, other than private, might now be placed at 2,000, and the number of volumes at 800,000.

The condition of the public mind on the subject of libraries may be inferred to some extent from the statistics and estimates given. There are five distinct library movements in progress in Indiana today. The first is the religious movement, represented by Sunday-School, church and Young Men's Christian Association libraries. This is still fairly important, but it has lost the aggressive character that it had originally. Neither is it so adequate for present demands, for the books are limited to juveniles and moral and religious works, and the circulation is confined to attendants. Next is the school movement. This is the product of the necessity for a certain supply of reference books in school work, and also of books for collateral reading. There are many superintendents, trustees and other school officials who earnestly favor school libraries, and, as stated before, quite a number of these have been established. Third is the reading circle movement, which is represented by two organizations, the Teachers' Reading Circle and the Young People's Reading Circle. The former includes about 8,000 of the 13,300 teachers in the public schools. The latter has about 12,000 members, which is a little over 2 per cent of the enrollment and less than 4 per cent of the average attendance. In several of the counties the teachers have reading circle libraries, and in some few the young people have libraries in every township. These libraries are limited in size and are aimed to cover the reading circle work, which is laid out annually by a State

board. The reading circle work is very valuable, but where the libraries have not been organized many persons are debarred from engaging in it by inability to purchase the books.

The fourth is the college movement. Men engaged in higher education probably realize now as they never did before the necessity of library resources. There is a gradual introduction of university methods, especially in the teaching of history, political economy and natural science. There is a continual tendency toward the systems of collateral reading and individual research. Hence the library is becoming more and more an important feature of the college, and each college realizes that its interests will be promoted in every way by the improvement of its library. There is now, and necessarily will be in the future, a steady growth of college libraries. The principal ones in the State are as follows:

Notre Dame, St. Joseph.....	48,000
Wabash, Montgomery.....	27,500
St. Meinrad, Spencer.....	24,500
DePauw, Putnam.....	19,000
State University, Monroe.....	15,000
Hanover, Jefferson.....	10,000
Purdue, Tippecanoe.....	6,000
Franklin, Johnson.....	6,000
State Normal, Vigo.....	5,286
Rose Polytechnic, Vigo.....	5,000
Earlham, Wayne.....	5,000
Butler, Marion	5,000
St. Mary's, Vigo.....	2,000
Moore's Hill, Dearborn.....	1,000

There are several other colleges, seminaries and normal schools that have small libraries. In several instances colleges are convenient to city libraries, which are used by the students, and citizens of the towns in which the colleges are situated, can usually obtain access to the college libraries.

The fifth, and in fact, the only genuine public library movement, is that of the cities and towns, which is a development of the last twenty years. These libraries are of assured permanence, and are usually conducted on an approved library basis.

The volumes and annual circulation of those having 5,000 or more books are as follows:

City.	Vol.	Circulation.
Indianapolis	51,394	265,746
Evansville	18,000	36,000
Richmond, (Wayne Township)	16,512	51,000
Lafayette	11,586	38,744
Terre Haute	9,225	29,489
Muncie	8,266	10,000
New Harmony	7,650	24,000
New Albany	7,130	28,854
Huntington	6,568	17,800
Laporte	5,000	3,000(?)

In a certain sense Indianapolis is the pioneer in this class of libraries. The library law of 1852 authorized the organization of a library company when subscriptions of \$50 had been made, and such company was authorized to make an annual assessment on its members, not exceeding \$5 to the share, but there was no provision for support by public taxation. The Indianapolis library came into existence under this law, its organization being the immediate result of a sermon, "A Plea for a Public Library," preached by Rev. H. A. Edson on November 26, 1868. It was owned by the company; but outsiders were permitted to use the books at a small charge. In 1871 an act was passed providing for libraries in "cities of over 30,000 inhabitants" (of which Indianapolis was the only one), which were to be under the control of the school board, and for the support of these a tax of 2 cents on \$100 was authorized. A library was organized under this provision, and the old library company donated its collection, amounting to about 4,000 volumes, to the new city library. It is practically impossible to overestimate the benefit of this library to Indianapolis in the last twenty years. It has revolutionized the city. It has made not only a community of high literary culture, but also a community of intelligent, practical men, to whom any appeal for progress and improvement is never made

in vain. In 1891 the Legislature increased the tax limit to 4 cents on \$100, and no tax is more cheerfully paid than this.

After the organization of the Indianapolis City Library there was still no law by which a public library could be created and supported at any other point in the State, but in 1873 an ingenious law was passed which gave the opportunity to any city. It provided that any city might take stock in a library and levy a tax of 2 mills on the dollar (the Legislators probably contemplated 2 cents on the one hundred dollars instead) to pay for the same, but in case of the dissolution of the library company, the city, if it held one-third of the stock, became the owner of the library, which was thereafter to be "for the free use and enjoyment of the inhabitants of such city," and the City Council was authorized to control the same, and to levy the same tax for its increase and expenses. By a little management any city could take advantage of this provision, but towns still had no opportunity. In 1879 a law was adopted providing that in any township in which a library of the value of \$1,000 was established by private donation, "for the use and benefit of all the inhabitants thereof," the Township Trustee is authorized to collect a tax of 1 cent on \$100 and pay the same to the Trustees of the library for its support. This extends the privilege to any township, but it has been used only in townships that were dominated by a town or city. Many of the libraries classed as town libraries are organized under it. In 1881 a law was passed by which libraries were authorized to be formed on the Indianapolis plan in cities of 10,000 inhabitants, and for their support the School Boards were authorized to levy a tax not exceeding 3 1-3 cents on \$100. By an amendment adopted in 1883, this law was made applicable to all cities and incorporated towns. Most of the city and town libraries are organized under these three laws, but there are a few exceptions. New Harmony has been mentioned. The Evansville Library (The Willard) is a gift to

the city from Willard Carpenter, who erected the building and left to the Library Trustees an estate which yields an income of about \$4,000. The City Council added to it the existing city library, and the whole is now managed without cost to the city, but free for the use of all citizens. The Richmond Library is legally the library of Wayne township, and is so classed in the tabulated statement, but it has always served the purpose of a city library, and still does. It was originally donated to the people of Richmond by Robert Morrison, and is still commonly known as the Morrison Library. Later on, the old Township Library was incorporated with it, and a few years ago it was placed under the operation of the township law of 1879.

It may be mentioned here that in the winter of 1891 a State organization of librarians was formed for the purpose of mutual advantage in library work, and the cultivation of library sentiment in the State. The members are for the most part representatives of college and city libraries. The president is Mr. Arthur Cunningham of the State Normal School library, and the secretary is Miss M. E. Ahern, State Librarian.

The sum of the existing movements is, in some respects, encouraging, and in some very discouraging. Laying aside the religious movement and the college movement, over which the State can have no control, we have left the school, the reading circle and the city and town library movements, all of which are purely voluntary with communities. It is encouraging that some communities are progressive enough to provide for their own wants in this branch of educational work. It is very discouraging that the larger part of the State has no provision worth mentioning for free reading matter. As to this we are now in exactly the same condition that we were in as to public schools when the great agitation arose that resulted in the present system of universal education. Parts of the State are forging ahead of the others in intelligence and in all the benefits

that intelligence brings with it. As a rule the cities and towns are advancing rapidly. As a rule the country is either falling back or barely holding its own. The school law of 1852 provided for free access to public libraries as completely as it did for free access to public schools, but by our carelessness and thoughtlessness we have almost destroyed its wise provisions. It is a painful commentary on the generation that enjoyed the township libraries in the day of their usefulness, that it has permitted future generations to come on without similar benefits. It is an almost phenomenal instance of retrogression that a State which had once been so thoroughly impregnated with correct educational ideas should have so completely lost an important portion of them. Consider for a moment. When children have been instructed in reading, writing and arithmetic, and have been graduated from one of our ordinary country schools, what are they going to do with their education? Of what use is it to teach a child to read if he does not read when he has learned how? And if, when he has learned, he shall find nothing to read but the cheap stuff which is for sale in hundreds of places where no other literature is offered, is there not always the discouraging possibility that it might have been better if he had never learned to read at all?

For several years past there has been a gradually growing agitation of the revival of the township library system, with remedies for its defects, and with provisions to adapt it to the existing conditions of the State. The State Teachers' Association considered the subject at its session of 1891, and appointed a special committee to urge on the legislature the passage of a law of this character. After consultation the committee agreed on a law, of which the following are the more important features:

1. The levying of a continuing tax for the support and increase of the libraries. The tax proposed was one-fifth of a mill on the dollar, or twenty cents on one thousand dollars. A majority of the taxpayers of

Indiana pay taxes on less than that amount, and therefore twenty cents a year would be the maximum of expense to a majority of our citizens. At the same time this would raise \$253,000 in the State, or an average of \$250 to the township. In some townships the amount would be considerably greater, and in some much less; but as the money raised in each township is to be expended for the library in that township the result would ordinarily be exactly what is needed, i. e., the more populous the township the more extensive the library.

2. If there be one or more towns of over one hundred inhabitants in a township, the library is to be located at the largest of such towns. This will usually secure the easiest access to the greatest number of readers. In case there is no town of that size, the county commissioners are empowered to locate it at a village or postoffice, if public convenience will thereby be advanced; otherwise the library is to be kept at the school house most centrally and conveniently located for general access.

3. The employment of a librarian. The funds, of course, will be limited, but there will be little difficulty in finding in each township some young person who would gladly devote one day in the week to the care of a library, for fifty dollars a year. Such persons would be interested in books, the use of the library being always an object to them, and better care would be taken of the libraries. It is useless to expect township trustees to give proper care to libraries. They are not selected on account of their knowledge of such matters, and usually can not afford the time that is necessary.

4. The appointment of library trustees in each township by the county superintendent, or other competent person, to serve without compensation, and to have general management of the libraries. In any township three persons could certainly be found willing to devote a little time to so beneficial a work. Women are made eligible to appointment.

5. The supervision of the libraries by the county superintendents of schools, including semi-annual inspection of the libraries, and reports to the State Superintendent. This connects the library system more closely with the school system, and will do much toward promoting the harmonious advancement of the two.

6. The introduction of the system of circulation in the schools. This has been successfully introduced at Huntington, Greencastle, and some other points. A certain number of selected books are sent to each school house at the opening of the school year and placed in charge of the teacher. At stated intervals these are moved from one school to another, and thus each school is given as much reading matter as is deemed proper. At the close of the schools the books are returned to the library for safe keeping. It is obvious that this system would cover the purposes of school and reading-circle libraries.

7. A provision that established libraries, accessible to all the citizens of the township, may become township libraries and receive the benefit of the tax. It is further provided that when a city or town having a separate library, maintained by a special tax, desires to retain it, the township outside of such city or town may be taxed separately and maintain its own library.

8. The preparation of lists of suitable books, and arrangement for their most advantageous purchase by a State Board. This is necessary, both to give full information as to what books are desirable, and to protect the libraries from the ravages of peripatetic book agents. Of course much better terms of purchase can be made when it is understood that the books on the list are subject to purchase in so large numbers.

This law will be passed whenever the public sentiment of the State demands it. The principal obstacle has been, and will be, the increase of taxation, and yet it should not be. There are few causes that appeal to the special interests of so many classes, in addition to the general interest

of public welfare, as does the cause of free libraries. It is to the special interest of the taxpayer, because he is the owner of the property, and there is no police protection of property or life that is so effective as general intelligence. I know of no man better qualified to testify on this subject than Edwin Chadwick, who was for many years entrusted by the British government with the inquiry into the causes of and the remedies for pauperism and crime. England at one time imposed a tax on all publications, and in opposition to that tax Mr. Chadwick said: "There can be no safety from the most fearful outrages against life and property but in the intelligence and moral feeling of the laboring classes. The government should therefore, in the first place, be imperatively required to abolish entirely every fiscal impost that can operate, directly or indirectly, to obstruct the diffusion of knowledge among the people. . . . No matter how poor, how inadequate, how coarse and distasteful to cultivated minds might be the publications first set forth, if they are read, they can scarcely fail to be of service in contributing to the formation of a habit of reading, which will facilitate the diffusion of publications of a more useful and elevated character. . . . Every penny of duty retained is a bounty on ignorance. Every minister or member of the Legislature who contributes to the retention of any portion of the tax, thereby contributes to the crime and misery by which the community is afflicted to such an appalling extent." The truth of this statement has been proven again and again, and who are more interested in its truth than the wealthy? You rich men, you men in moderate circumstances, are you not interested in the general intelligence from which alone good government can come? You trust to the public schools to produce it. Are you aware that the average attendance in those schools is a little less than one-half of the total enumeration? Of course a large part of these non-attendants receive instruction in private schools, but there still remains

a large portion receiving no instruction at all. What is being done for the education of these? What is being done for the education of the great army of those who have learned only to read and write, and there stopped? Surely no one will claim that the rudimentary education of the common schools is sufficient to fit a person for the duties of citizenship. Surely we all realize that we would have better laws and better lives if we had more good reading. It has been said that good books are the best companions. They are more. They are the best, or at least among the best, agencies for the repression of crime, of pauperism, and of misgovernment.

The Christian people of Indiana have a special interest in the establishment of free libraries. There is not now the need that confronted their predecessors for teaching children to read, but an evil stands before them almost equal in magnitude. Stop at any book stand and examine the character of the literature offered for sale. Note especially the very cheap literature published for the use of boys and girls. It is simply astonishing how much evil can be purchased for five cents—enough to poison a mind—enough to ruin a life. Are the religious and moral elements of Indiana doing their duty so long as the State does not offer to the children in every neighborhood good reading matter without money and without price? Blessings can not be too free, or else the Christian religion is founded on a mistaken idea. Some will not profit by their opportunities, but others will. You may go into hundreds of desolate places in this State and find people reading old almanacs, old Police Gazettes, anything to pass away idle time. Give them something better. Give children the means of entertainment and improvement which they almost invariably accept with gladness. Give boys something that will keep them away from loafing places where they become impregnated with evil.

The teachers have a pressing need for free libraries. No class of people have so many hard questions to answer, and it is

difficult to conceive of a more discouraging situation than that of a poorly-paid teacher, located where he cannot get at an encyclopedia, or any other reference book of importance. Unless he is a person of unusual information and great resources his school work must often be unsatisfactory to himself. Then there is the Reading Circle work. Does anyone believe that 5,000 of our teachers would not be taking part in it if they were able to get the books? It seems a small thing to purchase four books in a year, but if one is working for \$40 a month, for perhaps eight months in the year, it may naturally be a very serious matter. Most teachers understand that it would be a help to them if their pupils were taking the young people's Reading Circle Work, and they know also how easily that could be done if the books were to be had. Teachers have a great opportunity to hasten the day of reform. They can talk libraries to the children, and send them out as missionaries to convert the parents. They can urge on parents the needs of the children.

College men who are interested in the work of university extension have an interest in the formation of free libraries, because they are essential to the success of extension work. It is practically impossible to pursue any of the courses without the reference books which are required for collateral reading. Of course it would not be practicable to hold these extension lectures in the country, but there are many persons living in the country, adjacent to towns and cities, where lectures may be given, who might be induced to take part in the work if they had library facilities. Moreover, the young man or woman whose education has been limited to the rudiments is not in a condition either to appreciate or fully receive the benefits of the extension lectures. There must be some better foundation to build upon, and it is difficult to see a way in which this may be obtained if the opportunity to read instructive books is not given. You can not jump people from

a primary school to an university. There must be some intermediate work.

Farmers have a special interest in the establishment of township libraries, because they are the very persons who now have no access to public libraries. There is no law on our statute books by which an agricultural community can organize a public library, and have it supported by public taxation, unless a donation of \$1,000 is first secured. Cities and towns can have libraries without any donation. Children in cities and towns have privileges in this branch of education that country children do not have. Even when a town has no public library there are usually private libraries to which a studious boy or girl can obtain access, but neighbors are not so close together in the country, and this privilege is rare in proportion. Why should this be so? At a recent State meeting of the Farmers' Alliance the subject was considered and a movement was started for forming Alliance libraries. Why not public libraries? The object of the Alliance is the education of the agricultural population in certain lines. Why restrict the educational influences to members of the Alliance? Why not give them to the whole community?

There ought to be a library in each township as a receptacle for public documents. The State prints biennially enough of the journals of the two Houses of the Legislature, and annually enough of the reports of the State officers, to furnish one to each township. An old law provides for sending one to each township library, but there are practically no libraries to send them to, and so the distribution has been discontinued for many years. For several years past the surplus volumes have been carefully stored to await the passage of a township library law. All through the State political questions arise that can easily be settled by these documents, and they ought to be within reach of every voter. They are reference books, and the only proper place for them is a library.

The need for public libraries is not peculiar to this State. New Hampshire, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Ohio, Minnesota, and Wisconsin have all improved their library systems within a few years past. Many States still lag behind. Indiana is among them, but her day of regeneration is not far off. The people are ready for the reform. It needs only a little awakening of sentiment, a little guidance, a little care. It will come; and when it does come it will be in a perfected form that will assure the permanence of the system. It can not come too soon if the remnants of the old libraries are to be utilized.

A summary of libraries in 1893:

Townships without libraries	439	
Township libraries	574	
Volumes in township libraries		138,867
School libraries.....	148	
Volumes in school libraries.		29,016
County, city and town libraries	99	
Volumes in county, city and town libraries.....		187,783
All others not private libraries	110	
Volumes in such libraries...		229,835
Total	931	585,501

SHORT HISTORY OF THE INDIANA STATE LIBRARY

By Esther U. McNitt, Chief, Indiana History and Archives Division

The first official mention of a state library is in the Journal of the Constitutional Convention of 1816, when on June 28, the following resolution was passed: "That it be recommended to the general assembly of the state of Indiana, to appropriate the money voluntarily given by the citizens of Harrison county to the state, to the purchase of books for a library for the use of the legislature and other officers of government; and that the said general assembly will, from time to time, make such other appropriations for the increase of said library, as the[y] may deem necessary."¹ At that time, the capital of Indiana Territory was at Corydon in Harrison County.

Legislative action was taken at the first session of the General Assembly after the capitol was removed to Indianapolis, when on February 11, 1825, an act was approved, providing that the books then in the office of the secretary of state, together with such as might be added later, should constitute a state library for the use of the members of the legislature, the secretaries and clerks of each house, the officers of the several branches of the executive department of the state, the judge of the United States district court, the United States district attorney, and the judges of the supreme and circuit courts, when at the seat of government. The books were to be circulated for a period not exceeding ten days. If kept longer, the fine was to be twenty-five cents per day; if not returned in three months, in place of the fine, the borrower was to pay double the value of the book or books not returned. An appropriation of

fifty dollars was made for the binding of pamphlets and the purchase of books that year, and thereafter there was to be an annual appropriation of thirty dollars.² The secretary of state was to act as librarian, keeping a catalogue of the books and a record of loans. The governor, the secretary of state, the auditor of public accounts, and the treasurer of state were to constitute a board of commissioners for the library.³

In 1828 the commissioners were authorized to procure the laws of the other states, the laws and ordinances of the legislatures of Indiana Territory, and the laws and journals of the state which were then lacking, and they were empowered to make rules and by-laws and to fix the time for which books might be loaned.⁴ Evidently the first rules made by the Legislature were not entirely satisfactory.

That special, detailed legislation was the vogue in those early days is indicated by an act in 1831 authorizing the secretary of state to purchase "two of Tanner's maps of the United States of the last edition," for the use of the House and Senate, but between sessions to be preserved in the library.⁵ In 1832 he was authorized to purchase Gales and Seaton's *Register of Debates in Congress* and other special books;⁶ and in 1833 he was instructed to purchase a full set of *Niles' Register*⁷ and not to buy "novels or romances."⁸

The first state house was completed in 1835, and in 1837 it was ordered that the library rooms be carpeted and shelved and

¹Journal of the Convention of the Indiana Territory. Louisville, 1816, p. 68.

²By an act of 1829 this sum was increased to \$100. Also the "faculty" of the library was given permission to make rules which might prohibit the circulation of "any map, chart, or book." *Laws of Indiana*, 1829-30, p. 91.

³*Laws*, 1825, pp. 47-49.

⁴*Laws*, 1827-28, pp. 57-58.

⁵*Revised Laws*, 1831, p. 368.

⁶*Laws*, 1831-32, p. 275.

⁷*Laws*, 1832-33, p. 232.

⁸*Ibid.*, p. 240.

that one of the rooms be set apart for the law library.⁹ The secretary of state was authorized to prepare a catalogue of the library, and the annual appropriation was increased to two hundred dollars.¹⁰

By a law in 1841 the state library became a separate institution from the office of secretary of state and a librarian was elected by the legislature, his term of office being three years. The state librarian was not only in charge of the library but also was made keeper of the state house and state house square. During the recess of meetings of the legislature, he was to take up and dust the carpets used in the rooms where it met. He was to keep the fence and gates around the state house square in good order, so as to keep out the stock; and he was permitted to mow the grass plat in the yard, and to "apply the grass to his own use." In other words he was the custodian of the building and grounds as well as state librarian. Also he was to assume the duties formerly performed by the agent of state for the town of Indianapolis. As librarian he was to take proper care of the books, "preserving them from moulding and from moths." If he loaned a book to any person other than those designated by law as entitled to borrow them, he was liable to pay a fine of not less than ten dollars nor more than one hundred dollars. The library was to be open daily except Sunday during the sessions of the legislature and at other times on Saturdays.¹¹ The librarian's annual salary for all these responsibilities was three hundred dollars, and the annual appropriation was four hundred dollars.¹²

In 1842 the privileges of the library were extended by law to the attorneys of the supreme court, editors of newspapers,

clergymen, and physicians, while such persons were in Indianapolis;¹³ in 1847 its use was extended to the "trustees and officers of the State lunatic asylum and the institutions for the deaf and dumb and the blind";¹⁴ and in 1850 to the professors and teachers in all the institutions of learning in the state, while at the seat of government.¹⁵

During these early years, the reports of the librarian consist mostly of lists of books with the purchase price given after each item. In some reports appear lists of the books lost, and, as required by law, lists of the names of those not returning books. These lists contained hundreds of names, including those of some of Indiana's most prominent citizens. In 1841 one hundred volumes were reported missing.¹⁶ In spite of rigid rules, the difficulty of getting books returned was so great that one librarian after another advocated that the books be circulated only in the state house or be withdrawn from circulation altogether and be used only in the library rooms. In 1845 the total number of volumes in the library was reported to be 16,554.¹⁷ This same year the historian, John B. Dillon, then librarian, called the attention of the legislature to the "confused masses of books and papers" belonging to the state, apparently state archives, which were lying in the garret of the building on the lot known as the Governor's Circle.¹⁸ A later report stated that these state records had been removed to a room in the state house.¹⁹

One of the most interesting reports was that of Gordon Tanner in 1854. He stated he had taken charge of the books of the old Indiana Law Library, which were worth about \$2,000, without authority from a majority of the stockholders, but with their

⁹*Laws* (general), 1836-37, pp. 103-4.

¹⁰*Ibid.*, p. 106.

¹¹Provision was made in 1852 to keep the library open daily also between the sessions of the legislature. *Revised Statutes*, 1852, vol. 1, p. 349.

¹²*Laws* (general), 1840-41, pp. 114-19.

¹³*Laws* (general), 1841-42, p. 119.

¹⁴*Laws* (general), 1846-47, p. 109.

¹⁵*Laws* (general), 1849-50, p. 119.

¹⁶*State Librarian. Report*, 1841, p. 18.

¹⁷*Report*, 1845, p. 18.

¹⁸*Ibid.*, p. 14.

¹⁹*Report*, 1847, p. 288.

apparent approval. If the stockholders would release to the state all claim to the books, he suggested an annual appropriation for the purchase of books for the law library and recommended that the circulation be restricted to the judges of the supreme court of the state and of the United States circuit and district courts and the attorneys having cases pending in them. He further recommended that "the miscellaneous and documentary portions" of the state library be no longer circulated, inasmuch as the city of Indianapolis alone was benefited by the law then in force, and since the yearly damage to the books from circulation was as great as the small annual appropriation made for the increase of the library. In a bitter complaint, he said of the library, "It is very defective in all its departments. Hardly any subject can be fully investigated by its aid. It has but a few first rate works of any kind. But imperfect as it is, its usefulness would be far greater, if it were not rendered still more imperfect by circulation."²⁰ He also felt that a rational arrangement of the books was prevented by the badly constructed shelves. In a plea for an increase of the librarian's salary, he said the duties of the office had been quadrupled, and that the necessities of life had doubled in price, with the consequence that the librarian, if he had a family, must starve or neglect the duties of his office to gain a living in some other pursuit. He offered no apology for failing to make a catalogue, as contemplated by law, because "he had to make a choice between two great evils—neglect of duty, or starvation."²¹ The request for more salary was made again in 1856, when

he said, "To make even a tolerable librarian, one must have cultivated for many years a close intimacy with books. A man may make a good governor—an intelligent legislator—a competent judge—and yet be totally unfit for the duties of a librarian," meaning that "the office requires peculiar talents, difficult of acquisition, and worthy of a liberal reward."²²

The combination of library duties and the janitorial work of looking after the state house, required of the state librarian, was a difficult one to meet. In 1850 when Nathaniel Bolton, the husband of Sarah T. Bolton, was state librarian, a conference of several of the governors of western states, by invitation of Governor Wright, was to be held, in the interest of the Union and of peace, in Indianapolis. In order to have a place for a public reception it was necessary to open the Senate chamber and the hall of the House of Representatives. The old carpets were found to be unfit for the occasion and new ones were purchased. The duty of getting the carpets sewed together fell upon Mrs. Bolton; and as the time was short, and help was difficult to obtain, she did most of the sewing herself. Incidentally it might be mentioned that it was during this week or ten days of working both day and night that she composed the well known poem, "Paddle Your Own Canoe."²³

An act of 1867 authorized the erection of a building for the use of the supreme court and the officers of the state, and provided that the law library should be removed to this building and be placed under the control of the judges of the supreme court,²⁴ which arrangement still exists.

²⁰In 1849 the circulation was said to have been about 1600 annually. Jewett, Charles C. "Report on the Public Libraries of the United States of America," p. 176. (Appendix to Smithsonian Institution, *Annual Report*, 1849.)

An act of 1861 prohibited the removal of law books, reviews, magazines, cyclopedias, reference books, news or literary journals, or rare books, except temporarily by the judges of the Indiana supreme court and the United States court, the officers of the state, and members and officers of the General Assembly. *Laws*, 1861 (special session), p. 50. An act of 1863 prohibited the removal of any book, magazine, or work of any kind from the capitol buildings. *Laws*, 1863, p. 24.

²¹*Report*, 1854, pp. 965-67.

²²*Report*, 1855-56, pp. 178-79. The salary was \$500. *Laws* (general), 1845-46, p. 78. This was increased to \$800 in 1859. *Laws*, 1859, p. 174; and in 1865 it was increased to \$1,200. *Laws*, 1865 (special session), p. 177.

²³Bolton, Sarah T. *Life and Poems*. Indianapolis, 1880, pp. XLI-XLII.

²⁴*Laws*, 1867, p. 209.

Mrs. Sarah A. Oren, the librarian from 1873 to 1875, was the first woman to hold this position. Lamenting the small appropriation of four hundred dollars, she said, "The great State of Indiana calls loudly for a well filled reference library."²⁵ Her report speaks of classifying the books "after the manner of the Boston Public Library, so far as immovable shelves will allow." They were arranged into departments by subjects, and then alphabetically by the authors. Also the "card catalogue" is mentioned as the "only complete system of cataloguing an ever-increasing library." In the purchase of books, she thought consideration should be given to the needs of the laboring people, who could not afford to buy costly reference books. She was gratified to see that the western mind was constantly seeking something higher and better, and that the books called for and the subjects investigated indicated a growth in culture and refinement.²⁶

The state house had become very crowded by this time and, as provided by the legislature in 1867, an office building had been constructed on the corner of Tennessee and Washington streets²⁷ for the use of the supreme court, the law library, and the officers of state. Finally in 1877, provision was made for a new state house, and the state library and some other offices which had remained in the state house were removed across the street to McCray's Block²⁸ on the southeast corner of Tennessee and Market streets, where the library remained until it was moved into the present state house in 1887. In these temporary quarters the library seems to have made little progress. In 1882 the librarian, Miss Emma A. Winsor, said the library was not

a credit to the state, that there had been no catalogue since 1869,²⁹ and that the one made at that time was not wholly satisfactory. She had made a card catalogue under author, subject, or title of all books in the library down to the letter L.³⁰ At this time there were 16,849 bound volumes³¹ in the library, of which 400 were classified as concerning Indiana.³² This seems to be the first mention of anything like an Indiana collection. The report in 1884 stated there were 2,115 bound volumes and 1,900 pamphlets relating to Indiana.³³ The need of a larger appropriation was emphasized by the librarian in 1886. She said, "It is generally understood that our library . . . is not equal to the average State library of the United States. This is not due wholly to the frequent change of management but is largely to be attributed to the limited annual appropriation for books and binding."³⁴ A comparison in library appropriations for books and binding was then made between Indiana and the other states in what was formerly the old Northwest Territory. At that time Michigan received \$3,000, Illinois \$2,500, Wisconsin \$2,000, Ohio \$1,500, and Indiana \$400.³⁵

In January, 1887, the library was removed to the new quarters in the south wing of the present state house, where it is still located. The librarian was greatly distressed by the lack of proper accommodations, especially the amount and kind of shelving.³⁶ About this time the Indiana Historical Society became interested in the welfare of the library and together with the Central Labor Union, the Indiana Horticultural Society, the Indiana Tile Makers' Association, the State Board of Agriculture, several stock breeders' organizations,

²⁵Report, 1873-74, p. 9.

²⁶*Ibid.*, pp. 23-24.

²⁷Treasurer of State. Report, 1868, p. 5. Tennessee Street is now known as Capitol Avenue.

²⁸State Librarian. Report, 1877, p. 7.

²⁹The librarian did not seem to be aware of the printed catalogue for 1872. There are also catalogues of this early period for 1859 and 1865 as well as for 1869.

³⁰Report, 1881-82, pp. 5-6.

³¹The statistics of the earlier period show little growth which was due probably to the loss of books, different methods of counting them, and the small appropriations.

³²Report, 1881-82, p. 15.

³³Report, 1883-84, p. 11. An "Indiana department" was mentioned in 1886. Report, 1885-86, p. 9.

³⁴In 1852 the term of the librarian was made two years. Revised Statutes, 1852, vol. 1, p. 348.

³⁵Report, 1885-86, pp. 6-7.

³⁶Report, 1887-88, pp. 5-6.

and the Indiana Academy of Science urged the legislature to make a larger appropriation for its support.¹⁷ Doubtless due in part to this organized effort, an act was passed in 1889, providing for an appropriation of \$5,000 for the first year for the purchase and binding of books, and an annual sum thereafter of \$2,000.¹⁸ Of the first sum the use of \$1,000 was permitted for the preparation of a card catalogue. The law also provided for a purchasing board to direct the expenditure of all appropriations for the purchase and binding of books; and the librarian's salary was raised to \$1,500 per year.¹⁹ At the same time a law providing for the appointment of a custodian of public buildings and property relieved the state librarian from the duty of looking after the state house.²⁰ The librarian was also directed to deliver to the librarian of the supreme court all laws of the other states and territories of the United States, then in the state library.²¹ An earlier law had required that all laws, law books, and legislative journals and documents should be kept separate from the rest of the library.²² This apparently was the final transfer of any law books, remaining in the state library, to the law library.

Jacob P. Dunn was the librarian from 1889 to 1893. His administration stands out especially for the way in which he built up the collection with standard and valuable works along historical and other lines. His careful selection and purchase especially of noteworthy books, pamphlets, and maps is very evident in the library today. He also had made a card catalogue. In

1892 his report showed that there were 22,168 bound volumes in the library.²³

Miss Mary E. Ahern, after assisting Mr. Dunn for four years, became librarian in 1893. In her report in 1894 she complained of crowded alcoves and shelves and "the danger from fire to the priceless collections," and urged more shelf space.²⁴

By a law in 1895, the management and control of the state library was vested in the State Board of Education, which was to serve as the State Library Board; and the selection of the librarian after April 1, 1897, was removed from the legislature and left to this board.²⁵ Presumably, it was hoped that by removing the library from politics, the frequent changes in librarians would be prevented and the institution would benefit by being able to follow the same policy for a longer period.

The administration of William E. Henry as librarian from 1897 to 1906 stands out as one of aggressive progress. The possibility of having traveling libraries had been mentioned in the report for 1895-96,²⁶ and he also called attention to their usefulness in his first report in 1897-98.²⁷ He suggested, too, that the state library become "the head and center of library interests of the state," and recommended the enactment of such a measure.²⁸ In 1899, in accordance with this idea, there was created by an act of the legislature a public library commission of which the state librarian was ex officio secretary.²⁹ This arrangement continued until 1903, when the earlier law was amended.³⁰

In 1897 the distribution of House, Senate, and documentary journals was placed

¹⁷*Report*, 1889-90, p. 7. Indiana Historical Society. *Proposed Library Law*. [1888].

¹⁸In 1893 this was reduced to \$1,000. *Laws*, 1893, p. 363; in 1903 it was increased to \$3,000. *Laws*, 1903, p. 364.

¹⁹*Laws*, 1889, pp. 58-60.

²⁰*Ibid.*, pp. 114-18.

²¹*Ibid.*, p. 59.

²²*Revised Statutes*, 1852, vol. 1, p. 350.

²³*Report*, 1891-92, p. 6.

²⁴*Report*, 1893-94, p. 5.

²⁵*Laws*, 1895, p. 234.

²⁶*Report*, 1895-96, p. 6.

²⁷*Report*, 1897-98, p. 29.

²⁸*Ibid.*, pp. 25-28.

²⁹*Laws*, 1899, pp. 134-37.

³⁰*Laws*, 1903, pp. 179-80.

under the control of the state librarian.⁵¹ Realizing the difficulty of getting other publications from the different state departments, Mr. Henry requested that a law be passed requiring the state printer to deliver to the state library for distribution a certain number of copies of each state publication.⁵² Such a law was passed in 1899.⁵³ In the same year the librarian was directed to compile a legislative and state manual.⁵⁴ In the report for 1897-98, there was an appeal for a larger appropriation for the purchase of Indiana historical material.⁵⁵ About the same time a "clearing house scheme" was inaugurated by which magazines, reports, and books, no longer wanted, were sent to the state library by libraries in the state and then distributed wherever they would be of use.⁵⁶ On January 1, 1898, was begun an index of Indianapolis newspapers, in which it was aimed to bring out any items of importance relating to the state.⁵⁷ This index is still being continued and has proved to be most useful. A complete catalogue of the library was printed in 1898, and again in 1903, and several supplements were issued.

In his first report, as well as in later ones, Mr. Henry had appealed for permission to circulate under certain conditions some of the books in the library.⁵⁸ In line with this request the legislature in 1903 provided for the circulation of books, other than reference ones, which could readily be replaced in case of loss.⁵⁹ Thus began the state-wide circulation of books, a most important step in the development of the state library. At this same session of the legislature the appropriation for books and

binding was greatly increased and a special appropriation of \$2,000 was made for the purchase of the files of *The Western Sun*, a Vincennes newspaper from 1807 to the year 1843.⁶⁰

The report for 1903-04 stated that the library had been recently selected as one of twenty-five libraries to become a depository of the printed cards issued by the Library of Congress,⁶¹ and so began the Library of Congress card catalogue which has become such an important part of the state library. This report also suggested that provision be made for the collection and arrangement of the archives of the state.⁶² Assistance to clubs in making out their programs was first mentioned in the report of 1905-06.⁶³ In May, 1905, was begun the publication of the *Indiana State Library Bulletin*,⁶⁴ which was continued until 1917. In October, 1905, the library began lending books in embossed type to the blind.⁶⁵

From the time the library was moved into the new state house in 1887, the serious need of adequate and modern shelving had been felt. Finally in 1905, \$7,500 was appropriated for this purpose⁶⁶ and metal shelving was installed.⁶⁷

In March, 1906, the Library Board provided for the formation of two new departments in the state library, a legislative reference bureau and a department of Indiana archives.

Also, during Mr. Henry's administration, all the public documents were classified and catalogued, and a large portion of the miscellaneous books and pamphlets were reclassified and catalogued, all according to the decimal classification. The staff was

⁵¹Laws, 1897, p. 111.

⁵²Report, 1897-98, p. 32.

⁵³Laws, 1899, p. 371.

⁵⁴Ibid., 259-60. Manuals were published in 1899, 1903, 1905, 1907, 1909, and 1913.

⁵⁵Report, 1897-98, p. 30.

⁵⁶Report, 1899-1900, pp. 15-17.

⁵⁷Ibid., p. 14.

⁵⁸Report, 1897-98, p. 27.

⁵⁹Laws, 1903, p. 153.

⁶⁰Ibid., p. 379.

⁶¹Report, 1903-04, p. 12.

⁶²Ibid., pp. 16-17.

⁶³Report, 1905-06, p. 9.

⁶⁴Ibid., p. 19.

⁶⁵Ibid., p. 18.

⁶⁶Laws, 1905, p. 505.

⁶⁷Report, 1905-06, p. 24.

increased from the number of three to ten.⁶⁶

Demarchus C. Brown was librarian from 1906 until 1926. These twenty years showed marked growth both in the size of the library and in the character of the work. In August, 1906, the legislative reference department was organized in the library, its work being primarily to secure and organize such data as would be of special service to the members of the legislature.⁶⁷ This department was recognized by a law in 1907.⁶⁸ It grew to be quite a large division and was separated from the library in 1913.⁶⁹

In November, 1906, an archives department was begun.⁷⁰ This became the Department of Indiana History and Archives by an act of the legislature in 1913.⁷¹ Because of the lack of space, little was done in collecting archives, but the Indiana material was increased until there was formed quite a noteworthy collection of books, pamphlets, maps, manuscripts, and pictures relating to the state. The observance of the centennial of the admission of Indiana into the union in 1916 increased the demand for information and also emphasized the importance of having such a state historical collection. The director of the department was a member ex officio of the Indiana Historical Commission, organized in 1915.⁷²

The collection of material belonging to the Indiana Academy of Science had been stored on the library shelves for many years. The librarian's report of 1907-08 reported an agreement between the academy and the library whereby the collection was to be catalogued⁷³ and this was begun in

February, 1908,⁷⁴ and finished in 1910.⁷⁵ In this same year was secured the first large collection of Indiana historical manuscripts, known as the Lasselle Collection. In later years, many other collections were obtained. Special efforts were made also at this time to collect, bind, and catalogue newspaper files.

In 1918 the library received as a gift the John H. Holliday collection consisting of over fifteen hundred volumes relating mostly to the Civil War.⁷⁶

During and immediately after the World War special effort was made, in cooperation with the Indiana Historical Commission, to collect and bind all papers, reports, and material relating in any way to Indiana's part in the war and over a thousand volumes were thus added to the library.

In 1921 was begun a picture collection of hundreds of color reproductions of great paintings, to be loaned like books.⁷⁷ Shortly after this a circulating collection of vocal and instrumental music was started. The interest in genealogy increased a great deal during Mr. Brown's administration and that part of the library was developed as rapidly as funds would permit.⁷⁸

Additional shelving was added both in the library rooms and in the corridor between 1921 and 1926, which gave temporary relief to the congested condition of the library.

The circulation of material made the library much more useful to the people in the state and the demand for books and for information on special subjects increased at a rapid rate. At first books were sent by express and then by parcel post.⁷⁹ The

⁶⁶*Indiana State Library Monthly Bulletin*, September, 1905, pp. 1-2.

⁶⁷*Report*, 1905-06, p. 10.

⁶⁸*Laws*, 1907, p. 236.

⁶⁹*Laws*, 1913, pp. 694-96.

⁷⁰*Report*, 1905-06, pp. 12-14.

⁷¹*Laws*, 1913, p. 303.

⁷²*Laws*, 1915, p. 455.

⁷³*Report*, 1907-08, p. 15.

⁷⁴*Ibid.*, p. 7.

⁷⁵*Report*, 1909-10, p. 10.

⁷⁶*Report*, 1917-18, p. 625.

⁷⁷*Report*, 1920-21, p. 358.

⁷⁸*Report*, 1925-26, p. 980.

⁷⁹An effort seems to have been made as early as 1906 to obtain library postage rates. *Indiana State Library Monthly Bulletin*, February, 1906, p. 1. Such a rate was finally secured on July 1, 1928. *Library Occurrent*, vol. 8, p. 260.

circulation increased until citizens in every county in the state were using the library. In 1913-14 the number of places where material was sent averaged twenty-eight weekly, in 1926 the daily average was twenty-three. Also during these twenty years the staff had increased to twenty.

The need of more space apparently was felt by Mr. Brown as soon as he became librarian, for in his report for 1907-08, an appeal was made for a new building which would adequately house the state library and museum.⁵² A law in 1911 provided for an Indiana Centennial Commission to select a site and secure plans for an Educational Building to be dedicated in 1916 which would house the library, the museum, and some other departments. The state librarian was secretary of this commission.⁵³ The commission made a report to the Legislature in 1913, but instead of acting upon it, the question as to whether Indiana should celebrate its centennial by an "appropriation of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) for a centennial memorial" was left to a referendum vote to be taken at the election in 1914.⁵⁴ The proposition was defeated. The World War followed, and when the provision for an Indiana World War Memorial was made in 1920, an effort was made to have this take the form of a building for the state library, but this also was unsuccessful.

By an act of 1925 the state library and the public library commission were united and placed under one director, and the state library, thus formed, together with the historical bureau and the legislative bureau, were placed under one board called the Indiana Library and Historical Board. By this act the library interests of the state were combined into one unified organization.⁵⁵ The first and present board is composed of William P. Dearing, Mrs. Eliza-

beth Claypool Earl, Mrs. Frank J. Sheehan, William M. Taylor, and Charles N. Thompson.

Louis J. Bailey became director of the state library in September, 1926. The need of a building was realized at once as necessary, if the library were to make any progress, or even keep up with the service rendered in the past. An attempt was made to secure a tax levy for a state library and historical building during the legislative session of 1927, but failed. A more thorough preparation and organization was begun at once in anticipation of the meeting of the legislature in 1929, and due to the many friends of the movement throughout the state, an act was passed that year providing for a tax levy for three years which will raise approximately a million dollars for a site and a building for the state library and historical bureau.⁵⁶ A building commission, appointed by the governor, is at present working on the selection of a site and plans are being made for the erection of this building.

In 1888, shortly after the library was moved into the present state house, it had 25,154 bound volumes.⁵⁷ The number of pamphlets was not given. On January 1, 1931, the library had 154,968 bound volumes, 69,666 pamphlets, and 3,625 maps. Of these the Division of Indiana History and Archives had 13,405 bound volumes, 12,379 pamphlets, and 567 maps.

One other phase of the history of the state library has been reserved for a separate account and that is its part in the custody of the museum material belonging to the state. In 1849, the library had a small collection of minerals and fossils.⁵⁸ In the report for 1867 the librarian spoke of the "Trophy Hall" as a part of the library, in which were nearly four hundred flags belonging to Indiana regiments and a number of

⁵²Report, 1908, p. 31.

⁵³Laws, 1911, pp. 89-101.

⁵⁴Laws, 1913, pp. 526-28.

⁵⁵Laws, 1925, pp. 190-202.

⁵⁶Laws, 1929, pp. 210-19.

⁵⁷Report, 1887-88, p. 44.

⁵⁸Jewett, Charles C. *Report on the Public Libraries of the United States of America*, p. 176.

"rebel flags" and other relics.⁸⁰ He said that in the future this department of the library would be visited with the same interest that the stranger then visited Independence Hall.⁸¹ These flags were quite an annoyance to the librarians because of the many requests to borrow them for reunions and other occasions. After they were borrowed, it was sometimes difficult to get them returned. They were fragile and it was impossible to take proper care of them. One librarian would not permit them to be loaned unless accompanied by the assistant librarian.⁸¹

According to the report of 1873 the catafalque upon which the body of President Lincoln had lain in state in the state house in 1865 was removed from the library because it was almost destroyed by moths. The same report mentioned the removal of the pictures of the governors to the library from the governor's apartments.⁸² The report of 1887-88 recommended the transfer of the museum including the flags to the geological or agricultural department inasmuch as a "library is no place for a collection of curiosities that draws visitors and creates noise and confusion."⁸³ Because of the lack of space in the library rooms, the museum, with the exception of the flags and the pictures of the governors, had been in the care of the state geologist already for a year. In 1889 a law provided that the custody of these archaeological and historical relics, then in charge of the geologist, should be transferred to him;⁸⁴ and in 1891 the custody of the battle flags was also transferred to the state geological museum.⁸⁵ In 1908 an ap-

propriation was made for reinforcing, mounting, and encasing the flags. The cases were then to be placed in the corridor of the state house in charge of the custodian of the building.⁸⁶ By an act in 1911, after the flags in the cases were placed in the corridors, they were to be delivered by the flag commission to the custody of the state librarian.⁸⁷ In 1913 the librarian was directed also to preserve the history of said flags,⁸⁸ but in 1915 he was relieved of their custody when it was transferred to the flag commission.⁸⁹

At the request of the governor in 1923, most of the portraits of the governors then hanging in the state library were removed to the governor's office and the remainder were placed in storage in a room in the basement of the state house. Here they remained until 1930 when all of the portraits were collected and hung in the corridor on the fourth floor of the state house. The library also had had in its custody for many years the busts of Henry Clay, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas A. Hendricks, Daniel Voorhees, Ashbel P. Willard, Stephen Neal, and John Augustus Sutter, which, because of crowded conditions, it had been impossible for many years to display. At the request of some interested citizens, and with the consent of the governor, the director of the library in 1930 transferred these busts to the custodian of the state house to be placed in the vacant niches surrounding the rotunda. There still remain in the library some pictures relating to the history of Indiana which are preserved as a part of the state historical collection.

⁸⁰Report, 1867, p. 4.

⁸¹Report [1869], p. 2.

⁸²Report, 1881-82, pp. 6-7.

⁸³Report, 1873-74, p. 21.

⁸⁴Report, 1887-88, p. 7.

⁸⁵Laws, 1889, p. 60.

⁸⁶Laws, 1891, p. 97.

⁸⁷Laws, 1908 (special session), p. 11.

⁸⁸Laws, 1911, p. 79.

⁸⁹Laws, 1913, p. 754.

⁹⁰Laws, 1915, p. 18.

LIBRARY OCCURRENT

LIST OF LIBRARIANS*

John Cook, February, 1841, to February, 1844.	Sarah A. Oren, April, 1873, to April, 1875.
Samuel P. Daniels, February, 1844, to January, 1845.	Lycurgus Dalton, April, 1875, to April, 1877.
John B. Dillon, January, 1845, to January, 1851.	Richard Conner, April, 1877, to April, 1879.
Nathaniel Bolton, January, 1851, to January, 1854.	Maggie F. Peelle, April, 1879, to April, 1881.
Gordon Tanner, January, 1854, to January, 1856.	Emma A. Winsor, April, 1881, to April, 1883.
S. D. Lyons, January, 1856, to January, 1859.	Lizzie O. Callis-Scott, April, 1883, to April, 1889.
James R. Bryant, January, 1859, to January, 1861.	Jacob Piatt Dunn, April, 1889, to April, 1893.
Robert D. Brown, January, 1861, to January, 1863.	Mary Eileen Ahern, April, 1893, to April, 1895.
David Stephenson, January, 1863, to January, 1865.	Emma L. Davidson, April, 1895, to April, 1897.
B. F. Foster, January, 1865, to April, 1869.	William E. Henry, April, 1897, to September, 1906.
M. G. McLain, April, 1869, to April, 1871.	Demarchus C. Brown, September, 1906, to August, 1926.
James De Sanno, April, 1871, to April, 1873.	Louis J. Bailey, September, 1926, to date.

*Henry, William E., comp., *Municipal and Institutional Libraries of Indiana*. 1904, p. 72.

THE INDIANA PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

By Hazel B. Warren, Chief, Extension
Division

The Indiana Union of Literary Clubs was the first organized group in the state to take a particular interest in library extension. They very much felt the need of books in their own work, and realized what it would mean to the entire state. They passed a resolution at their June, 1897, meeting "That the president of the Indiana Union of Literary Clubs should appoint a committee of five, of which she should be one, to coöperate with the Indiana Library Association in framing a law which should secure to Indiana a library commission, and this committee to report progress at the next annual meeting of the Club." Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl was chosen chairman, with Mrs. J. P. Dunn, Miss Effie Catlin, Professor T. F. Moran, and Mr. J. F. Stutesman as the other members of the committee. The Indiana Union of Literary Clubs also asked the Indiana Library Association to appoint a legislative committee to coöperate in the securing of a library commission, and the following persons were appointed: Albert Faurot of Terre Haute, Miss Belle S. Hanna of Greencastle, and Miss Eliza Gordon Browning of Indianapolis. A committee on library legislation was also appointed by the Indianapolis Commercial Club. The chairman of this committee was Albert Rabb.

Two bills were introduced into the 1899 General Assembly. This was because of the difference of opinion of the committees. The Indiana Library Association committee wished to place the Commission under the control of the State Library Board, and to make certain persons ex-officio directors of the Commission work. The representatives of the Indiana Union of Literary Clubs believed from their study of library conditions that it would be advisable to have the Commission work on an independent basis and that there should be no ex-officio mem-

bers. The Indiana Library Association bill was killed and the other was amended by agreement in the Senate committee to allow the State Librarian to be ex-officio secretary to the Commission. The essential points in the law were: (1) It created a Public Library Commission of three members, with supervision of the library work of the state. (2) It appropriated \$3,000 for the inauguration of a system of traveling libraries under the direction of the Public Library Commission. (3) It provided that the people of any township, by vote, might establish a tax of two cents on each \$100 of property for maintenance of a free public township library. (4) It put the control of any such library in a board of three persons—the school township trustee and two members appointed by the judge of the circuit court, one of whom should be a woman. Since an amendment to the law made in 1903, the Commission has appointed the secretary.

Public libraries in Indiana before 1899 were organized under the school law. In 1899 a law for the establishment of township libraries was passed and several were organized. After that date interest increased to such an extent that there was need of new legislation and a public library law was passed in 1901. For the first time in the history of the state there was a law which made it possible for every city and incorporated town to have a public library. Most of our libraries were organized under this law. In 1911 a new law providing for township support was passed, and extension service from existing public libraries was given to many townships. The next important step in library legislation was in 1917 when the law for establishment of county libraries was passed. Amendments were passed by legislatures of 1914, 1921, 1926, and 1929. The last important amend-

ment gave library boards the power to issue, negotiate and sell bonds, and to create sinking funds subject to the approval of the City Council.

Members of the first commission, as appointed by Governor James A. Mount, were Jacob P. Dunn, Indianapolis; Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl, Connersville, and Joseph R. Voris of Bedford. They met and organized April 11, 1899, with Mr. Dunn as president. The State Librarian, W. E. Henry, as provided by law, was secretary.

The Commission immediately began to function and began to purchase books and to equip traveling libraries. They organized two classes of libraries—miscellaneous collections of forty volumes each, all similar in scope, and Study libraries, consisting of from ten to fifteen volumes each upon some specific subject.

In 1899 thirty-four libraries were ready for circulation, and by October 31, 1900, forty-six more were ready. The popularity of the work was evident and the legislature of 1901 increased the appropriation for the Commission's clerical expenses from \$500 to \$1,000, and added \$2,000 for "organization, books and equipment." Since that time to the end of the fiscal year October 31, 1930, 775,344 volumes have been circulated to 14,418 associations or organizations.

The Commission was fortunate in having Miss Merica Hoagland as library organizer. From May 1 to November 1, 1901, she gave her services without compensation—at which time the increased appropriation was available.

There was an apparent need for trained librarians. It seemed necessary to outline some course of instruction—more than could be given in a short visit by the organizer to the librarian. A library class, attended by thirteen persons was held in the rooms of the Commission from October 31 to November 7, 1901. This course had such satisfactory results that another course was given the next year from April 17 to May 15. Miss Harriet L. Eaton, a graduate of Pratt school, was an instructor. No one

was accepted for the course except those already in library work and there were twenty-eight in attendance. In 1903 from July 6 to August 14, there was a library school at Winona Lake, with twenty-six enrolled. Miss Anna R. Phelps, graduate of Vassar College and the New York State Library School, was an instructor. Every year, since this time there has been a definite course given, mainly through summer schools to 959 librarians and assistants in Indiana. The school was at Winona Lake 1905-1907; Earlham College, Richmond, 1908-13; Hanover College, Hanover, 1914; Butler College, Indianapolis, 1915-1920; Shortridge High School, Indianapolis, 1921-24. Since 1925 we have been fortunate in having the school in the Senate Chamber of the State House. Outstanding librarians from various parts of the country have given instruction. Some of the best known have been:

Anna R. Phelps	Arthur Cunningham
Harriet L. Eaton	Electra Doren
Ida M. Mendenhall	John A. Lapp
Sabra W. Vought	W. E. Henry
Lillian B. Arnold	Julia Wright Merrill
Mary W. Plummer	Elva L. Bascom
John Cotton Dana	Gertrude E. Andrus
J. I. Wyer	Charles E. Rush
Merica Hoagland	Henry N. Sandborn
Mary E. Ahern	George B. Utley
Francis L. D. Goodrich	Flora B. Roberts
Grace E. Salisbury	Samuel H. Ranck
Carrie E. Scott	May Massee
Arne Kildal	Ethel F. McCollough
Chalmers Hadley	Matthew S. Dudgeon
Lovina Knowlton	F. G. Melcher
Florence R. Curtis	Virginia M. Tutt
William M. Hepburn	Zana K. Miller
Linda M. Clatworthy	Anna G. Birge
Demarchus C. Brown	William J. Hamilton
Harlow Lindley	Julia S. Harron
Carl H. Milam	Margaret Mann
Sarah C. N. Bogle	Georgia McAfee
L. J. Bailey	Mrs. Carl Roden
Arthur E. Bostwick	Johanna Klingholz
Eliza G. Browning	Elizabeth C. Ronan
John S. Cleavinger	Charles H. Compton
	Arthur R. Curry

November 15, 1905, a library school in Winona Technical Institute at Indianapolis was opened with Miss Merica Hoagland as director, and Miss Anna R. Phelps as head instructor. The school offered a one year's course in Library Science. Because of lack of funds the school was closed in 1908, and reorganized and incorporated again in the same year, by Miss Hoagland, former secretary of the Public Library Commission, under the name Indiana Library School. The school was maintained until 1913 by tuition fees, sustaining memberships and contributions from those interested. During the years the school was in existence fifty-two graduates took active positions in library work in various parts of the state and several have continued in the work. Several other graduates withdrew from active library work for various reasons.

The Commission was always very much interested in school library work and Indiana was the first state to undertake the centralization of library work with schools. In the summer of 1925, at the request of Professor Roberts, in charge of education at Purdue University, William M. Hepburn, librarian of Purdue University, and Miss Della F. Northey of the Commission staff, offered a course in school library work to teachers. At the same time, the Commission coöperated with the Ball Teachers' College, Muncie, in offering a short course to school librarians. Six weeks' training was offered to those having at least two years of college work, and regular college credit was given. Miss Barcus Tichenor, librarian of the college, and Miss Northey, taught all the courses—book selection, cataloging and classification, and high school library administration. For several years special lectures have been given in our regular Summer School for school librarians. Because of the increased interest in school libraries, the Licensing Division of the State Department of Education in 1929 added library science to the subject group of high school teachers' licenses. In order to meet the demand for licensed high school

librarians, eight hours of library science was given at Indiana University, in 1930, with Miss Margaret Cleaveland of Cleveland as instructor. Similar courses are being promoted at Ball Teachers' College, Muncie, and Indiana State Teachers' College, Terre Haute.

Another type of instruction begun in 1903 was through library institutes. The organizer arranged meetings of one, two or three days' length and a general discussion was held on different phases of library work. These institutes were succeeded by district meetings in 1910, and now ten or twelve meetings—one day for each—are held in different parts of the state during the spring months. A total number of 279 meetings have been held, and attended by thousands of librarians, trustees and interested people. Last year over 800 attended the ten meetings held in various parts of the state. An interesting fact concerning these library activities in our state is that the first library institute held in the United States was conducted by Miss Cornelia Marvin in the Public Library at Indianapolis, December 20-31, 1896.

The secretary of the Public Library Commission arranged for a meeting of library trustees on November 4, 1909. Thirty-seven people, representing twenty-eight libraries, attended. Another meeting was called for March 30-31, 1910, at which a constitution was adopted. The constitution provided "for a membership of trustees, persons connected with the Public Library Commission, and others elected by the executive board: for dues of one dollar a year: and for an annual meeting to be held in Indianapolis in November." The Trustees Association continues to be a live factor in library development in the state.

The Indiana Library Association was organized as early as 1891, several years before the Public Library Commission was organized. They have held annual meetings since that time.

The Library Occurrent was first published in April, 1906, by the Public Library Commission. They recognized the need of some

method of exchange of ideas, and during all these years information pertaining to all phases of library work and items concerning work done in libraries have been given in this publication.

In 1899 there were thirty-nine public libraries in the state; now there are 222 tax supported public libraries, with an additional one supported by an endowment fund, besides forty libraries in educational institutions of collegiate grade and sixteen active association libraries. Nearly all state institutions have some library facilities also. A total of 245 reports was received from commissioned high schools in the state where an expenditure of at least \$150 for books and periodicals for the school year 1929-1930 was made and a librarian appointed to have charge of the library.

In 1899 there were only six or seven libraries housed in buildings adapted to, but not erected for their use. There were no Carnegie libraries in the state. Now there are 154 Carnegie library buildings, representing Carnegie gifts to the amount of \$2,508,664.38, and there are twenty-nine buildings that were financed by local donations or taxation, with a value of about \$1,200,000.

In 1899 there were forty-nine county seats without library buildings. Now there are two such, and only one county, Crawford, is without a public library. Fifteen counties now have county library service. Of the 3,238,503 people in Indiana (1930 census) 2,368,639, or 73 per cent, have library service. Of the 1,016 townships in the state, 333 receive extension service from public libraries. Special effort is being made to develop county libraries in all counties of the state. The State Federation of Clubs has this as one of its objectives. The Federation has helped much through all the years to develop library service. As early as 1908 it maintained a library extension committee which cooperated fully with the Public Library Commission.

In 1899 there was but one librarian in Indiana who had graduated from library

school. Now there are about 300 according to information furnished us. Approximately 500 have had a Summer School course, or have been in training classes.

By 1903 the work and service had increased to such an extent that the Legislature increased the appropriation of the Commission to \$7,000. At the same time there was a reorganization of the Board. The office of the corresponding secretary and the organizer were consolidated, and an instructor, librarian, stenographer, and shipping clerk were added to the staff. The administration of the traveling library was taken from the State Librarian and given to the Organizer on November 1, 1902. On May 1, 1903, according to the new law, the Commission was given the custody of the books in the traveling libraries.

The first change in the original Board came in 1903, when Mr. Voris declined reappointment at the expiration of his term, and W. W. Parsons of Terre Haute was appointed. This Board continued as the Commission from 1903 until 1919, when Mr. Dunn and Mr. Parsons were succeeded by C. H. Oldfather and Thomas C. Howe. Mr. Dunn was president of the Board from 1899 to 1915, and Mrs. Earl was president from 1915 to 1925.

In 1925, the Legislature passed a bill combining the Indiana State Library, the Public Library Commission, the Legislative Reference Bureau, and the Historical Bureau. This bill created and established a department of the state government known as the Indiana Library and Historical department. The management and control of this department is vested in a board, consisting of five members appointed by the Governor. Members are appointed on the recommendation of one each by the State Board of Education, the Indiana Library Trustees' Association, the Indiana Library Association, the Indiana Historical Society, and one selected and appointed by the Governor. The members now are Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl, Mrs. Frank J. Sheehan, Charles N. Thompson, William M. Taylor, and Dr. William P.

Dearing. It is notable that Mrs. Earl was one who worked for the securing of the Public Library Commission in 1899, and that she has been a member of the Commission or Board from its beginning.

The advisory and organizing work of the original Public Library Commission is now carried on by the Extension division of the State Library. The traveling library work was united with other lending of books to form a new department. The purpose of the Commission and of the Extension division, broadly speaking, has been the establishment and development of library service throughout the state. With the coöperation of library boards, librarians, public spirited individuals and various clubs, organizations, and allied institutions, the Commission has been one of the important factors in placing Indiana in the front rank of states noted for good library service.

MEMBERS OF LIBRARY BOARD, 1899-1930

Indiana Public Library Commission Board

Jacob P. Dunn, Indianapolis, 1899-1919; president, 1899-1915.

Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl, Connersville and Muncie, 1899-1925; president, 1915-1925.

Joseph R. Voris, Bedford, 1899-1903.

William W. Parsons, Terre Haute, 1903-1919.

C. H. Oldfather, Crawfordsville, 1919-1925.

Thomas C. Howe, Indianapolis, 1919-1925.

Indiana Library and Historical Board.

Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl, Muncie, 1925; president, 1925-1926.

William M. Taylor, Indianapolis, 1925; president, 1927.

Dr. William P. Dearing, Oakland City, 1925; president, 1928.

Charles N. Thompson, Indianapolis, 1925; president, 1929.

Mrs. Frank J. Sheehan, Gary, 1925; president, 1930.

PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION OF INDIANA, 1899-1925

Secretaries

Merica Hoagland, 1901-1906.

Chalmers Hadley, 1906-1909.

Carl H. Milam, 1909-1913.

Henry N. Sanborn, 1914-1918.

William J. Hamilton, 1918-1922.

Arthur R. Curry, 1923-1925.

Other Members of Staff

Ida M. Mendenhall, work with schools, 1904-1906.

Georgia H. Reynolds, Librarian Traveling Library, 1902-1909.

Elizabeth B. Noel, Stenographer, 1899-1924.

Lillian B. Arnold, Assistant State Organizer, 1906-1907.

Carrie E. Scott, Assistant State Organizer, 1907-1917.

Helen Davis, Librarian Traveling Library, 1910-1916.

Ora Williams, Assistant State Organizer, 1911-1915.

Grace L. Horne, Assistant and Librarian Traveling Library, 1913-1920.

Elizabeth C. Ronan, Assistant State Organizer, 1915-1920.

Elizabeth Ohr, Assistant State Organizer, 1916-1918.

Margaret Davis, Assistant State Organizer, 1917-1918.

Margaret A. Wade, Assistant State Organizer, 1918-1919.

Mayme C. Snipes, Assistant State Organizer, 1919-1922.

Jane R. G. Marshall, Assistant State Organizer, 1919-1920.

Harriet T. Root, Assistant State Organizer, 1920-1922.

Jean M. Sexton, Librarian Traveling Library and Assistant State Organizer, 1920-1923.

Della Frances Northey, Supervisor of High School and State Institution Libraries, 1921-1926.

Ruth F. Stevens, Office Assistant, 1921-1922.

Nellie K. Free, Librarian, Traveling Library, 1922-1923.

Mabel R. McColgin, Office Assistant, 1922-1923.

Winnifred Wennerstrum, Assistant State Organizer, 1923-1925.

Eunice D. Henley, Librarian Traveling Library, 1924-date.

Carolyn E. Morgenstern, Stenographer, 1924-date.

Hazel B. Warren, Assistant State Organizer, 1924-date.

LIBRARY HISTORIES

By Frank H. Whitmore

A short time before the Dayton meeting the President of the Indiana Library Association, Miss Marian A. Webb, recommended that the Publicity Committee, which had hitherto been concerned only with the Ohio meeting, take over the matter of securing the preparation and collection of histories of each of the libraries in the state. To carry out this plan the original committee of three has been increased by the addition of eighteen members. In enlarging the committee an excellent co-operative spirit has been shown which promises well for the success of the project. All of these eighteen members are from centers which are within easy reach of a group of nearby counties. The state, in this way, is divided into eighteen districts. All of the eighteen members will be known as District Chairmen and they will secure from the libraries of towns and cities in neighboring counties histories of the individual libraries. The organization for carrying forward this work through the coming year is indicated on the accompanying list giving committee members and District Chairmen. A list of directions for the preparation of library histories also accompanies this material.

The general purposes in securing the preparation of these library histories are (1) to obtain authentic accounts of the origin, history and work of each library

within the state, (2) to create local interest in the library by printing the historical material in local papers, and (3) to preserve this data by placing it on file in the State Library. It is probable that this material will be bound and for this reason writers of historical sketches are being asked to submit their articles on paper of uniform size. This material, separately and in the aggregate, should be of much value and historical importance and the committee hopes that there will be a ready response to the requests, which will be made directly by District Chairmen, for these historical sketches.

Directions for the Preparation of Library Histories

The size, age and scope of work of each library will determine the amount of data to be supplied. It is hoped that each sketch will include, at least, material covering the following points:

1. Complete narrative history of the library.
2. Development of the library in respect to growth of book collection, circulation, and financial support at different periods.
3. Mention of outstanding gifts and names of benefactors.
4. List of any special lines of work.
5. Mention of any special collections.
6. Present scope of work with latest available figures.
7. Name of writer or compiler of sketch. Use paper of letter size (8½x11 inches). Leave 1½ inch margin on left and one inch on right of paper. Use best quality of bond or ledger paper. Give footnote references for source of information, page references if to publications, or names of persons vouching for statements. Type on only one side of paper. Put page number in upper right hand corner. Include in the historical sketch a chronological list of librarians with dates of service.

Double space main account; footnotes may be single spaced.

Sketches to be published during Spring of 1931 in local papers. One original type-written copy, together with clippings giving reprint, to be submitted to District Chairman not later than August 1, 1931.

If there have been any special libraries of importance, such as school, early township, Sunday School, academy, seminary or county libraries, in your community, please have historical sketch prepared and submit separately an account of their work. (Sketches of institutional, normal school and college libraries will be secured directly by District Chairman).

Post card views or unmounted pictures of library buildings and clippings of historical interest will be welcomed. This material should be enclosed with the manuscripts.

While there is no requirement as to the number of words, likewise no limit is being set for the length of the articles. It is hoped that enough data will be supplied in each of the histories to furnish an adequate account of the library and its work. The type of information to be supplied is left to the judgment of the one writing the article.

These suggestions are drawn up not with the idea of producing absolute uniformity regarding subject matter but to secure essential data. Each library has its own individuality and it is the hope of the Committee assigned to the collection of the articles that writers will bring this out in the course of their historical sketches.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Frank H. Whitmore, East Chicago (Representing Northern section of State) Chairman.

Helen M. Clark, Indianapolis, (Representing Central section of State).

Lola E. Nolte, Mount Vernon, (Representing Southern section of State).

DISTRICT CHAIRMEN

(In charge of collecting library histories from counties mentioned below).

Northern Counties:

Hazel F. Long, Whiting
Lake, Newton, Jasper

Zada M. Carr, Valparaiso
Porter, LaPorte, Starke, Pulaski

Mrs. Grace Osterhus, South Bend
St. Joseph, Elkhart, Marshall, Kosciusko, Fulton

Mrs. S. S. Martin, Garrett
Lagrange, Steuben, Noble, DeKalb

Sarah L. Sturgis, Fort Wayne
Adams, Wells, Huntington, Wabash, Allen, Whitley

Florence G. Ruger, Lafayette
Benton, White, Warren, Tippecanoe, Montgomery, Fountain

Central Counties:

Mary Cain, Indianapolis
Marion, Boone, Hamilton, Madison, Hendricks

Mary Anderson, Terre Haute
Vermillion, Parke, Putnam, Vigo, Owen, Clay

Mrs. Dana H. Sollenberger, Kokomo
Cass, Miami, Howard, Clinton, Tipton, Carroll

Caroline Dunn, Connersville
Union, Fayette, Rush, Henry, Wayne

Mary Knott, Hartford City
Delaware, Randolph, Jay, Blackford, Grant

Mrs. Helen M. Allison, Nashville
Hancock, Morgan, Johnson, Shelby, Brown

Southern Counties:

Jane Kitchell, Vincennes
Sullivan, Greene, Knox, Daviess, Pike
Ethel F. McCollough, Evansville
Posey, Gibson, Vanderburgh, Warrick,
Spencer
Annette L. Clark, New Albany
Floyd, Crawford, Harrison, Orange,
Washington, Perry

Gladys Walker, Columbus
Bartholomew, Decatur, Ripley, Dear-
born, Franklin

Amy Johnson, Vevay
Jefferson, Clark, Scott, Jennings,
Switzerland, Ohio

Minta E. Stone, Bedford
Monroe, Lawrence, Jackson, Martin,
Dubois

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